Reports, Letters and Papers

APPERTAINING TO

20th Mass. Vol. Inf.

Vol. 2.

20th Cal.
6.1 vol. 2

"20th" Lab. 6.1

Vol. 2

FROM ~~THE MEMORIAL FUND~~
~~OF~~ THE 20TH REGIMENT
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Vol 2

20th Regt. Coll.

Vol. 2

Committee of the Assn. of Officers of the 20th Mass. Vol. Infantry.

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Richmond, Va., Oct. 27th, 1861.

Verified
E. B. Robins

Dear Frank,

We hear that an opportunity to send will occur this week, and I write in regard to the disposition of our effects and to let you know that our entire party (Col., Major, Adj., Ast. Sur. and Lt. Perry) are well. We are confined but otherwise well treated, and, although some of the comforts we have been accustomed to are wanting, yet you need be under no apprehension that we are suffering. I wish you would dispose of my horse and forward all of my effects to Dr. E. B. Peirson, Salem, Mass. Should there be any opportunity to send to us, I want, and I presume all of us do, a suit of flannel underclothes, two suits of cotton do., three or four cotton shirts, and a suit of citizen's clothes of medium thickness, and Books. I believe I left the affairs of the Reg. well kept up, but I want you to find among my papers, receipts amt. to $250. more or less from different officers to Col. Lee and exchange them with Maj. Bannister for the Col's receipt. In case you can draw our pay, please do it and forward to our friends. We have a little money here, enough by living very economical to last some time; when perhaps some way will be opened to send us more.

You can trust Freeman to take charge of our things. Dr. R. wishes his horse sold and effects forwarded to Boston. Capt. Crowninshield will attend to Lieut. Perry's affairs. Turn the Major's horse over to Q. M., and tell Freeman that his present arrangement continues at least for this year. Remember us kindly to all comrades and friends and believe me

As ever, your friend,

Chas. L. Pierson.

P.S. The things we ask for and letters can be sent to the State Department to be forwarded, if there be any communication. Please inform our friends; all letters are inspected and should be sent unsealed.

Address C. L. P., Mass. 20th. Prisoner of War,
care Gen. J. H. Winder, Richmond, Va.

Richmond, Sunday, Oct. 27.

Verified
E.B. Robins

Dear Colonel,

I will thank you to have my personal clothing packed in my trunk, key tied to handle and also a card marked W. W. Corcoran, Washington, D.C. Write on the card in a corner, Col. W. R. Lee. Forward the trunk to Mr. Corcoran, writing him a note requesting him to keep it for me, or send it to house of my aunt Mrs. Morris. Turn over my horse to Q. M. Dept. Send also to Mr. Corcoran, my saddle, holsters, and bridle, in the box. My camp bedstead, blankets, &c., you may dispose of as you please. Be sure to put my private letters in the trunk. My health is very good and my spirits are cheerful. Kind regards to the 20th, who are with you. I rest confident that you wrote home after the disaster to our arms, giving such assurances of our safety – that we survived – as was in your power to give.

Very truly,
W. Raymond Lee.

Lt. Col. Palfrey, 20th Regt. Mass. Vols.,
Washington, D.C.

P.S. I suppose that a wagon of Q. M. Dpt. can take our things to Washington. Write Mr. C. in advance of the wagon.

Verified E. B. Robins

1st Co. Sharpshooters.

Boston 18th Dec., 1890

John C. Ropes, Esq.,

Dear Sir: –

I have examined the Adjutant-General's reports, and been to the Adjutant-General's office at the State House to consult them about the status of the First Company of Sharpshooters, but have as yet found nothing decisive.

They suggested my looking at the original monthly returns, and brought out those of the First Company of Sharpshooters, and the Fifteenth Infantry, and the Twentieth Infantry.

I found that the Fifteenth Infantry rendered them on their returns as if they were an eleventh Company, – but they footed up the officers and men of the Fifteenth separately, and then the Sharpshooters separately, – and then made a final footing of all together

Lieutenant Gilbreth was killed June 18th, 1864. I could find no monthly returns for the Sharpshooters, or the Twentieth, on June 30th, – but I examined the original returns of the Twentieth Massachusetts for April 30th and May 31st, 1864, and they did not mention the Sharpshooters at

all. I found also the original returns of the First Company of Sharpshooters for those two months, which were made entirely separately (though there was no evidence whether or not they had been forwarded through commanding officers of the Twentieth Massachusetts). These returns were as if they were of an entirely separate company, and did not mention the Twentieth Massachusetts at all. The most singular thing about these returns was the fact that they were signed by "Louis (or Samuel) Fitzsimmons, First Lieutenant commanding the company". Yet in the list of commissioned officers in this return given as present with the company there is only the name of Lieutenant Gilbreth, and no man named Fitzsimmons appears on any record of the Adjutant-General's office as having been ever connected with the First Company of Sharpshooters in any way, shape or manner as officer or enlisted man. Furthermore, no officer named Fitzsimmons is on the records of the Adjutant-General's office of Massachusetts as having a commission in any Massachusetts regiment. We even looked further, through the Adjutant-General's reports of

several states, and the regular army, - and could find no record of any officer named Fitzsimmons. I suppose he must have been an officer from some regiment from another state that was detailed to command the company.

These facts look as if the Sharpshooters were not very closely attached to the Twentieth Massachusetts in April and May, 1864. Unfortunately I can find no monthly return from them, or the Twentieth of June 30th, which would cover the movements and losses of the commands during June, the month in which Lieutenant Gilbreth was killed.

I could find no record at the State House of any orders regarding the various consolidations of the First Sharpshooters, except a reference to one (a War Department order) in October, 1864, when the re-enlisted men were transferred to the Nineteenth Massachusetts after the muster out of the First Company of Sharpshooters at the end of their three years enlistment.

The people at the Adjutant General's office advised me to make an official inquiry of them, and they would then look it up carefully, and apply to the War Department for copies of the

orders, (Brigade, Division or Corps) under which this company was transferred first to the Fifteenth, then to the Twentieth, and then to the Nineteenth Massachusetts.

I therefore enclose a letter which I have written to General Dalton, to be forwarded to him, if you approve. You know, I suppose, that the First Sharpshooters lost two officers, - Captain Saunders and Lieutenant Berry, at Antietam, - but probably the company was then attached to the Fifteenth Massachusetts, though I have not yet found the dates.

I was talking with Colonel Driver last Tuesday evening about it, and he felt very decidedly that the Sharpshooters were always considered in the Brigade as an eleventh Company of the Twentieth Massachusetts, - stating that they always appeared on parade with them, and were always included in all the orders sent to the regiment for movements, and took part with the regiment in all actions, etc. He said that, when they were with the Fifteenth Massachusetts, they undertook to refuse to obey some orders of the Colonel, claiming that they were not a part of the regiment, - but they

had to give in on that, and always afterwards obeyed the orders as if they were regularly enlisted in the Fifteenth.

Yrs. very truly

(signed) Edward R. Robins

The late Col. W. R. Lee.

Col. W. R. Lee, whose death on the 26th of December 1891 we recorded at the time, belonged to the Marblehead or revolutionary Lees. His grandfather, whose name he bore, was, in the revolutionary war, the colonel of a Marblehead regiment. From him Col. Lee derived his right to membership in the Cincinnati. Another ancestor, Jeremiah Lee, was prominent in many ways in the revolutionary struggle.

William Raymond Lee was born in 1807. He was educated at West Point, where he was a member of the class of 1829. He remained there for nearly the prescribed term, but left before receiving his commission. He followed the calling of a civil engineer, and was for many years the superintendent of the Boston & Providence R. R.

On the breaking out of the Civil War, Lee promptly offered his services to Gov. Andrew. He had never been in the army, but he had a military education; and although he was far beyond the usual age for active duty in the field, he gallantly took his place as colonel of a regiment. This regiment, the Twentieth Massachusetts, was his creation.

He selected the field and staff officers and most of those of the line. He gave it its standard of military duty. He inspired his command with his own high spirit of devotion and steadfastness. Well did the the regiment repay him by its magnificent behavior on many a bloody field.

Col. Lee was taken prisoner at the unfortunate affair of Ball's Bluff, and was one of the hostages selected by the Confederate government to receive the treatment which was awarded to Confederate privateers by the mistaken policy pursued by federal authorities at the outset of the war. His sufferings were severe, and for a time even endangered his life. Fortunately this exceptional treatment did not last long, and early in 1862 he was exchanged. He led his regiment throughout the peninsular campaign; he was at Yorktown, Fair Oaks, Savage's Station, Glendale and Malvern Hill. Then the Army of the Potomac was removed from the peninsula. In the bloody battle of Antietam the regiment, still under Lee, suffered heavy loss, but fully sustained its reputation. But the strain of field service proved too much for its commanding officer.

Few men at the age of 55 can long continue to bear the hardships and labors inseparable from active service in the line. After a vain struggle with increasing infirmity, Col. Lee was obliged to resign.

His military life had been brief but distinguished. It was also eminently useful. His spirit of unreserved devotion to the cause, his noble example in bravely and uncomplainingly enduring all the hardships of a soldier's life, his strict, high standard of military honor and duty inspired his regiment with the like high principles and sentiments; while his great kindliness of heart, his unselfishness and his uniform consideratenes for the rights and feelings of his officers and men had made him beloved and respected by his entire command. For his gallant and meritorious services he received the brevet rank of brigadier-general of volunteers.

After the war he lived in comparative retirement. His infirmities increased; he was not able to play any part in active life. But he was not forgotten. His neighbors and friends continued to seek his counsel. The officers of his old regiment sought him out, and

on every fitting occasion evinced the regard and honor in which they held him. It was a touching sight to see at his funeral some fifty of the enlisted men of the Twentieth, veterans of Ball's Bluff, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg and the Wilderness, mustering, with their badges of mourning, to pay to him the last tribute of respect and affection. But not only will his memory be cherished by those who knew him; his place among the Massachusetts colonels will always be a high one. The service he rendered to the State in the crisis of the Civil War will always be fully and gratefully remembered.

Tuesday morning,
Jan. 5. 1892.

Silas C. Pope

Tribute by the "Twentieth."

Regimental Veteran Association's Resolutions on the late Col. Lee.

The Veteran Association of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteers has adopted and sent to the family of its first colonel, Brev. Brig.-Gen. W. Raymond Lee, the following resolutions:

The survivors of the 20th Massachusetts regiment desire to express to the family of their former colonel, William Raymond Lee, the love and veneration which every man of the 20th felt for him from the moment when he came under his command.

His appointment as colonel at the beginning of the war put the breath of life into the regiment. He took to himself Palfrey and Paul Revere, and those three brought in Bartlett and John Putnam, and Tremlett, and Macy, and Abbott, and so many more whom we all remember, and together they shaped the body in the form it was to keep.

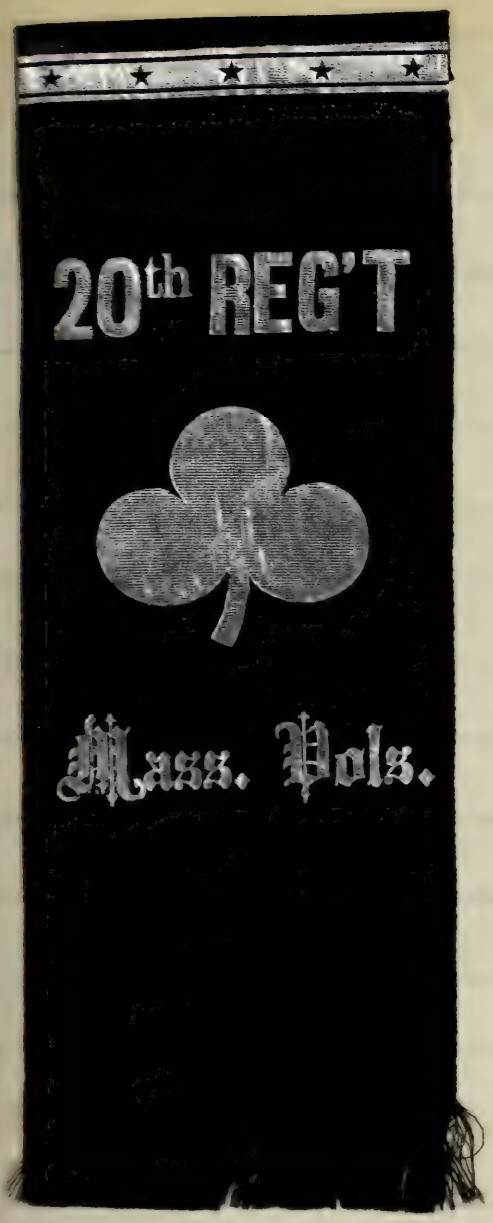
At Ball's Bluff the regiment's experience began. Its training continued at Yorktown, at

Fair Oaks, at Glendale and the other battles of the seven days on the Peninsula, and at Antietam. So that when it reached Fredericksburg, already it was a veteran corps, and the colonel's task was achieved when his body gave way under the exhaustion of the campaign.

Others had contributed knowledge of tactics, knowledge of the world, good sense, bravery, and a noble feeling of duty; but the old chief had given the regiment its soul.

He was the example of careless, generous gallantry. His "Foward Twentieth" stirred us more than trumpets. From him, too, the rest learned to be silent when their work was done. The 20th in its day was what a great regiment should be. It was in the thickest part of all the famous battles of the Army of the Potomac. It was known to all soldiers and to not many others.

Now, for a quarter of a century it has ceased to exist, and that it ever was is remembered only by a few gray-haired men. We believe that the colonel would not have



had it otherwise, and would have asked no other memory for himself. It is enough one's self to remember great deeds, to have felt the passion of life to its top, to have for companions the living and the dead who shared the incommunicable experience of war.

Col. Lee might have remembered, also, that he had lifted the hearts of a thousand men to heights which but for him, they never would have reached.

Boston, Dec. 29, 1891.

For the regiment,
(signed) Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
(") Gustave Magnitzky

N. B. The above badge was worn at the funeral of Col. Wm Raymond Lee. December 29, 1891.

BOSTON DAILY ADVERTISER
Established 1813.
TUESDAY MORNING JAN. 5, 1892.

THE LATE COL. W. R. LEE.

His Brief but Distinguished Military Career—His Sufferings in a Southern Prison.

Col. W. R. Lee, whose death on the 26th of December last we recorded at the time, belonged to the Marblehead or revolutionary Lees. His grandfather, whose name he bore, was, in the revolutionary war, the colonel of a Marblehead regiment. From him Col. Lee derived his right to membership in the Cincinnati. Another ancestor, Jeremiah Lee, was prominent in many ways in the revolutionary struggle.

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Col. Lee was taken prisoner at the unfortunate affair of Ball's Bluff, and was one of the hostages selected by the Confederate government to receive the treatment which was awarded to Confederate privateers by the mistaken policy pursued by federal authorities at the outset of the war. His sufferings were severe, and for a time even endangered his life. Fortunately this exceptional treatment did not last long, and early in 1862 he was exchanged. He led his regiment throughout the peninsular campaign; he was at Yorktown, Fair Oaks, Savage's Station, Glendale and Malvern Hill. Then the Army of the Potomac was removed from the peninsula. In the bloody battle of Antietam the regiment, still under Lee, suffered heavy loss, but fully sustained its reputation. But the strain of field service proved too much for its commanding officer. Few men at the age of 55 can long continue to bear the hardships and labors inseparable from active service in the line. After a vain struggle with increasing infirmity, Col. Lee was obliged to resign.

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TRIBUTE BY THE "TWENTIETH."

Regimental Veteran Association's Resolutions on the Late Col. Lee.

The Veteran Association of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteers has adopted and sent to the family of its first colonel, Brev. Brig.-Gen. W. Raymond Lee, the following resolutions:

The survivors of the 20th Massachusetts regiment desire to express to the family of their former colonel, William Raymond Lee, the love and veneration which every man of the 20th felt for him from the moment when he came under his command.

His appointment as colonel at the beginning of the war put the breath of life into the regiment. He took to himself Paltrey and Paul Revere, and those three brought in Bartlett and John Putnam, and Tremlett, and Macy, and Abbott, and so many more whom we all remember, and together they shaped the body in the form it was to keep.

At Ball's Bluff the regiment's experience began. Its training continued at Yorktown, at Fair Oaks, at Glendale and the other battles of the seven days on the Peninsula, at Antietam. So that when it reached Fredericksburg, already it was a veteran corps, and the colonel's task was achieved when his body gave way under the exhaustion of the campaign.

Others had contributed knowledge of tactics, knowledge of the world, good sense, bravery, and a noble feeling of duty; but the old chief had given the regiment its soul.

He was the example of careless, generous gallantry. His "Forward Twentieth" stirred as more than trumpets. From him, too, the rest learned to be silent when their work was done. The 20th in its day was what a great regiment should be. It was in the thickest part of all the famous battles of the Army of the Potomac. It was known to all soldiers and to not many others.

Now, for a quarter of a century it has ceased to exist, and that it ever was is remembered only by a few gray-haired men. We believe that the colonel would not have had it otherwise, and would have asked no other memory for himself. It is enough one's self to remember great deeds, to have felt the passion of life to its top, to have for companions the living and the dead who shared the incommunicable experience of war.

Col. Lee might have remembered, also, that he had lifted the hearts of a thousand men to heights which, but for him, they never would have reached.

Boston, Dec. 29, 1891.

For the regiment,
OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, JR.
GUSTAVE MAGNITZKY.

Head Qts. 20th Mass.
Falmouth, Va.
Dec. 20/62

Copied also page 178

My Dear Colonel (Col. F. W. Palfrey)

I have tried to find time to make known to you the glorious deeds of your old regiment but you know how much is to be done after such fearful losses as we have made.

Well Colonel I have led the 20th through two fearful battles and privately I am the happiest man alive for I receive nothing but the highest praise from all sides. Our regiment was so conspicuous especially in the street fight, we being the only one engaged, that every body knows of our deeds and talks about them. But Col. our loss is fearful. I will give you a brief account of the affair. Dec. 10 we were on picket.
Dec. 11. 3 A.M. orders came for me to withdraw & report to Col. Hall.

I did so and at daylight the 20th led the Brig. & we marched to the river. The cannonade had already opened and never was there a more beautiful sight than that morning as we marched forth to battle. The moon just setting & the sun rising while a thick mist enveloped everything.

It was grand indeed and never did troops feel in better spirits -

We arrived at the Lacy house directly opposite the city - were drawn up in line of Regts - The Sharpshooters of the enemy contested our crossing warmly - the engineers found it impossible to place the bridge - time passed on - Our guns opened upon the houses occupied by Shooters & battered many down but the enemy laughed at this and stood deliberately before us & ran from wall to wall - I will state first though that [at] a council of war held the night previous Gen. Couch was given the advance - Gen. C. turned to Gen. Howard & said your Div. will have the advance - Gen. H. turned to Col Hall & said your Brig. will have the honor of leading the Army of [the] Potomac across the river - Col. Hall gave the 20th the front & told me that I should lead the Brigade - Well I felt proud of that - felt ready for anything - felt sure that I had penned my last letter, however I felt that I could lead the 20th and I knew they would follow -

To proceed - Finding it impossible to place the bridge - Col. Hall was ordered to put two regiments on the river bank to pick off the enemy - He put

the 7th Mich. & 19th there - He told me that although these two Regts were put in this position in my front that I need not look so disappointed about it as he should put the 20th where they were promised and where the best troops would be needed -

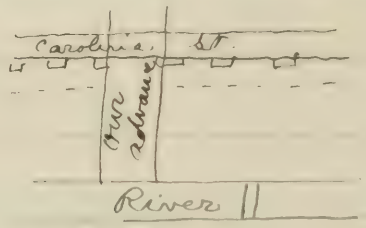
The 7th Mich. then volunteered to cross in boats and drive the devils out and so open the way - So they crossed in boats meeting with considerable loss - their Col. Baxter was wounded - All this time some thirty of our guns were playing round shot into the front of the city making sad havoc.

The 7th took a number of prisoners and drew up in line on the bank - the 19th then went over. The column was then led forward - the bridge was nearly completed, but while doing so I crossed the 20th in boats and formed line under the bank.

The 19th was then deployed on the right and the 7th on [the] left of a street running at right angles to [the] river - were ordered to move forward as skirmishers through [the] city while I was ordered to move up the street with the 20th, following a guide - (an old man and refugee)

My orders were to push forward the skirmishers and drive the enemy from the city -

bayonet every male found - take no prisoners - I led forth. Immediately upon rising above the bank we were under a hot fire from houses and fences from all directions - My guide faltered I hushed him forward and he dropped dead - shot - Abbott's comp. was 60 strong - I immediately ordered him to form by platoons and open fire - We still moved forward



The skirmishers I came upon they had halted in rear of the houses on Caroline St. I could not get them to move farther, the fire was dreadful - I sent to [the] rear for orders and was ordered [to] push forward - drive them out -

Forward 20th in column - I used some strong language to the officers in command of pickets - ending by referring them to a very hot place but they would not move forward -

I advanced - had hardly the least idea what to do but did not falter a moment -

Made Abbott cross C. St. and wheeled the 2d & 3d Companies to right and left respectively. Here we cleared the houses near us but shots came from far

and rear - We could see no one and were simply murdered - as every shot of the enemy took effect. How I escaped I cannot say as I was every where and more than a dozen actually fell upon me - I trembled for Abbott - he did nobly. Here we fought for 2½ hours and night came to our relief. We silenced the flank fire - Abbott advanced about 30 yds. but it was no use as we were the only ones fighting supporting the right or left - because the troops sent there would not advance.

Poor Cabot fell shot in the head - his company was wheeled to the right and the shot which killed him came from Abbott's front - Capt. Shepard, Curtis, Wilkins and McKay were wounded and 100 men killed and wounded. We went in with 307. Abbott lost 35 men out of 60 - 10 of them killed.

It was awful - we held the place during the night. I met with the warmest praise at Head Qtrs in the evening for my conduct and that of the Regt. When I sent to the rear to ask that troops might be sent forward on my left to stop the heavy fire there I was told the 42d N.Y. had gone there - The fire increased so

from that direction that I again sent word that I thought [the] 42d had advanced and mistook us for the enemy. Upon this the 42c were looked after and found not to have advanced at all -

So if you hear that we were shot by our own men you can contradict it. It is positive - they had not advanced an inch and no one else but the 20th. Thank God Holmes was sick and not there.

In the morning Gen. Sully relieved us and we went back to [the] river bank - the enemy had withdrawn nothing but their pickets in sight. The enemy threw shells all day.

The city was given up entirely to pack and such sights were never witnessed. It was a fine city. Soldiers making coffee in silver pitchers, cleaning guns with lace under sleeves &c. Nothing seemed to be removed. Houses torn to pieces. Beautiful paintings - pianos - In fact everything which wealth and luxury gives was there in abundance. I have a little trophy for you which I will send - It is a star (Generals)

Time passed on - Dec. 13 - 3 p. m. we were led out and drawn up in line in front of [the] enemys works a terrific fight was going on -

We were led to the right. Our Reg. was the extreme right of the line. The fight commenced. The enemy in rifle pits and pouring grape and round shot, shells to upon us. I was ordered to charge - the whole Brigade went forward we went as the 20th always does - perfectly - the 19th was on our left - Mind there was nothing on our right - a perfectly clear ground and the enemy high above us with a battery that completely enfiladed our line.
When I had advanced about 50 yds - the 19th hung and stopped. This did not look well for me - Alley fell dead - Dreher wounded. Beckwith fell. At this moment orders came to retire my Regt. again - "In retreat march" I said and back we came and formed again where we started from which was under a little cover. I am more proud of this retreat than anything - It was done coolly and in good order - here we remained until 2 a.m. when relieved by the 4th Infantry - Loss here 60 killed and wounded besides officers. It was awful again. But the 20th will go alone.

This is about all - I have written in great haste because I never can write an account with patience. I get sick of it.

We shall be paid directly and then I will pay for Jim who went into the battle with good spirits and what is more came out whole. He does not seem to mind anything but the sound of a shell passing near or a spent minnie ball which has a peculiar slow sing you know. Who should appear on Sunday but Col. Lee - sick used up &c. I was determined that he should go home and so he has. He has resigned. Col. Lee says he is bound to have you made Col. and myself Lt. Col. So he goes - poor man I pitied him. I had a long talk with him about you.

I await the result. I hope to succeed as it is the wish of our officers one and all - they are bound to have it. Poor Alley he was a very noble fellow. If you feel like it I wish you would write his mother - Mrs. Saml. Mitchell, Nantucket. She is a very nice woman and will feel his loss much.

Do let me hear from you. I have appointed Kelleher Co. F. and Hibbard Co. A act. Lieuts and applied for Comt. - also Cowgill absent sick and Walker wounded Antietam.

The two former behaved nobly - How strange the

list of wounded and how strange the preservation of the little band left.

Good bye

Macy.

Prepared for the Records of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, of which General Lee was a Fellow.

J. C. R.

30 Dec/93.

WILLIAM RAYMOND LEE.

Colonel William Raymond Lee, whose death on the 26th of December, 1891, attracted considerable attention at the time, belonged to the Marblehead or Revolutionary Lees. His grandfather, whose name he bore, was in the Revolutionary War the colonel of a Marblehead regiment. From him Colonel Lee derived his right to membership in the Cincinnati. Another ancestor, Jeremiah Lee, was prominent in many ways in the Revolutionary struggle.

William Raymond Lee was born in 1807. He was educated at West Point, where he was a member of the class of 1829. He

remained there for nearly the prescribed term, but left before receiving his commission. He followed the calling of a civil engineer, and was for many years the Superintendent of the Boston and Providence Railroad.

On the breaking out of the Civil War, Lee promptly offered his services to Governor Andrew. He had never been in the army, but he had had a military education; and although he was far beyond the usual age for active duty in the field, he gallantly took his place as colonel of a regiment. This regiment, the Twentieth Massachusetts, was his creation. He selected the field and staff officers, and most of those of the line. He gave it its standard of military duty. He inspired his command with his own high spirit of devotion and steadfastness. Well did the regiment repay him by its magnificent behavior on many a bloody field.

Colonel Lee was taken prisoner at the unfortunate affair of Ball's Bluff, and was one of the hostages selected by the Confederate government to receive the treatment which was awarded to Confederate privateersmen by the mistaken policy pursued by Federal authorities at the outset of the war. His sufferings were severe, and for a time even endangered his life. Fortunately, this exceptional treatment did not last long, and early in 1862 he was exchanged. He led his regiment throughout the Peninsular campaign; he was at Yorktown, Fair Oaks, Savage's Station, Glendale, and Malvern Hill. Then the Army of the Potomac was removed from the Peninsula. In the bloody battle of Antietam, the regiment, still under Lee, suffered heavy loss, but fully sustained its reputation. But the strain of field service proved too much for its commanding officer. Few men at the age of fifty-five can long continue to bear the hardships and labors inseparable from active service in the line. After a vain struggle with increasing infirmity, Colonel Lee was obliged to resign.

His military life was brief, but distinguished. It was also eminently useful. His spirit of unreserved devotion to the cause, his noble example in bravely and uncomplainingly enduring all the hardships of a soldier's life, his strict, high standard of military honor and duty, inspired his regiment with the like high principles and sentiments; while his great kindliness of heart, his unselfishness, and his uniform considerateness for the rights and feelings of his officers and men made him beloved and re-

spected by his entire command. For his gallant and meritorious services he received the brevet rank of Brigadier General of Volunteers.

After the war he lived in comparative retirement. His infirmities increased; he was not able to play any part in active life. But he was not forgotten. His neighbors and friends continued to seek his counsel. The officers of his old regiment sought him out, and on every fitting occasion evinced the regard and honor in which they held him. It was a touching sight to see at his funeral some fifty or more of the enlisted men of the Twentieth, veterans of Ball's Bluff, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, and the Wilderness, mustering, with their badges of mourning, to pay to their gallant leader the last tribute of respect and affection. But not only will his memory be cherished by those who knew him; his place among the Massachusetts colonels will always be a high one. The service he rendered to the State in the crisis of the Civil War will always be fully and gratefully remembered.

Colonel Lee was married in 1842 to Helen Maria Amory, daughter of the late Thomas Amory, Esq., of Roxbury. She survived him about two years. His eldest son, Arthur Tracy Lee, was educated at West Point, and died in 1870, a Lieutenant in the Fifth Artillery. Another son, Robert Ives Lee, and a daughter, Elizabeth Amory, the wife of Colonel O. H. Ernst of the Army, survive him.

1893. JOHN C. ROPES.

6 Joy Street, Boston,

Feb. 3, 1894.

Dear Ropes,

My eye rested recently upon a request of yours for a copy of Capt. Abbott's letter to my father about Sumner's death. I cannot remember whether such a copy was sent to you or not, and so send one now.

Yours truly,

Robt. Treat Paine

John C. Ropes, Esq.

Copy of letter of Capt. Abbott

Near Williamsport, Md.

July 14/63.

Mr. Paine,

Dear Sir,

In writing to you of your son's death, I can do little but give my testimony to his merits as a friend and his excellence as an officer. I neither saw him when he fell, nor do I know whether his body has yet been sent home. I made the most strenuous efforts to accomplish the latter, by going to corps commanders, division and brigade commanders, but so numerous were the applications that they would do nothing for me. Lt. Pepes was killed before the action commenced, so that a chance was secured for him. I finally had a grave dug, when I heard from our surgeon, Dr. Hayward, that he had managed to find means to send the body on. I accordingly sent the body to him. Since then I have been unable to hear from the Dr. or to learn whether he was successful or not. If not successful his grave can undoubtedly be easily discovered. He had two wounds, one through the body, and the other apparently breaking a leg. His body was found close to the fence, where the rebels made their desperate stand. Just a moment before he was killed, he had said to Lt. Summerhayes, "Isn't this glorious" while he was rushing on waving his sword-- It is unnecessary for me to speak to his father of his excellencies as a man. As an officer, he was generally considered fitter to command a company than one half of the old officers. The loss of your son and Pepes considered merely as officers, is irreparable.

You have the full consolation of knowing that Summer has kept up the glory of the name he bears, since no man could be more brave, capable and faithful in camp or more devotedly courageous in the field.

Yours Resply
H.L.Abbott
Capt. Comdg 20 Mass.

I send enclosed some unfinished letters of your son's found in his knapsack. His sword and other effects are with our quarter-master and will be sent to you as soon as possible.

Head Quarters Corps of Observation
Poolesville Nov 5th 1861.

Lieut Colonel Palfrey.
Comdg 20th Mass Vol.

Sir:

Agreeably to instructions given you this afternoon, you will please proceed to Harrison's Island tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock, bearing a flag of truce under the arrangement made today. The staff Departments have been ordered to send to you to be delivered to such officers as may appear to receive you, the following viz. Coin $100 (one hundred dollars)

15 lbs tea

32 " Coffee

3 qts. and 1 small sack Salt

2 doz Flannel Shirts

2 doz prs. Socks.

10 prs. Blankets.

LIBRARY

The

The above will be turned over to the officer meeting your flag for the use of the wounded of this command now in hospital at Lexburg.

Mr. Comstock, a citizen, from New York, goes with the party, with an undertaker and two assistants to disinter the body of the late Capt Alden, Tammany Regiment who was buried on the late field of battle.

If the body can be disinterred and brought off with safety to the party, you will please allow it to be done & give such assistance as may be practicable — But if decomposition has ensued to such an extent as to make the work dangerous to the health of the party, you will not permit it to bring brought off but will aid Mr Comstock in so securely marking the spot where it is buried, that at a later period the removal may be effected with safety & convenience.

I need not enjoin upon you the necessity of enforcing in your party the strictest propriety of conduct and conversation —

I

I enclose a dispatch addressed to General Evans, and three letters; the transmission of which you will please confide to the officer meeting the flag.

Very respectfully I am,
Sir,
Your ob. Serv.
G. W. Jones
Brig Genl Comdg

Brig. Gen. Stone –
Nov. 4/61.
Instructions to J.M.P.
as Bearer of Flag.

A true Copy from the original. Attest: John G. Pike
Capt. & A.D.C. December 1880

-Copy-

Hd Qrs Dep. N. Va.
19th July - 1862.

Colonel,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th June, announcing the death of the late Lt Col Bell 39th Ga Regt. I have caused your kind and considerate communication to be transmitted to the father of the deceased, to whom I doubt not it will afford a great satisfaction to know that his son, in his last moments, enjoyed the care and attention of a humane and generous enemy.

I thank you Colonel, for the kindness you have manifested to this deceased officer, and trust that a like spirit will always mark the treatment of the unfortunate wounded who may fall into the hands of either army.

I am Sir, very respectfully
Your obt servt
R E Lee
Genl Comdg

Col W. Raymond Lee,
Comdg 20th Mass Regt
U.S.A.

July 27. 1894

6 Joy St.
Boston.

Dear Pops

Here is a copy of
Capt Abbotts other letter.
which I knew was
somewhere & which my
sister finds on file in the
house. My father wrote
the letter I alluded to.

Yours truly
Robert Paine

Copy of Capt. Abbott's 2d letter to Charles C. Paine.

Near Warrenton Junction Va.

July 28/63

My dear Sir,

I received your two letters of the 21 and 23, last night. I can easily understand the feelings which dictated the former written before you received my letter, the indignation you must have felt at the apparent neglect of your son by his regiment and I think that even since you have got my first letter, you hardly comprehend, as it is impossible for a civilian to comprehend, how little chance there was to attend to one's dearest friend except to send him to the rear, where it was naturally expected somebody would be found better able to see to it than we were, being the first line, with the rebel skirmishers throughout the next day within pistol range of us, with orders to be under arms all the time, only 3 officers present with the regiment. I assure you that, even under these circumstances, it was impossible for those 3 officers to neglect the friend who had won their admiration and affection by his really wonderful pluck and talent.

Notwithstanding all my inquiries I can find little more than what I wrote before. You will remember that in the hurry and excitement of a charge at a moment when one sees nothing but the enemy, there is no time to note particulars. A man remembers certain phrases or acts, with a blank on each side, just as he does from a dream.

There is one thing I can bear testimony to, and that is, your son's wonderful talent in making himself one of the most accomplished officers I know in the army, in 2 month's time. Col. Hall, our brig commander, tells me that it was not wonderful to him after knowing his brother at West Point. His memory and application were so great that in a month's time he knew the whole book of tactics and Regulations, and commanded a division on battalion and brigade drill as well as any old officers, besides doing all his guard and police duty, with an exactness, a vigor, an enthusiasm that the comdg. of. in vain tried to stimulate in some of the older officers, sparing neither himself nor his men. When Lt. Paine was officer of the Guard, his influence was felt by the remotest sentinel on the outskirts of the town. His intelligence and discipline and indomitable resolution, were so fully recognized by Col. Macy that he often spoke of promoting him over nearly all the other 2d Lts., in fact over all with the exception of Summerhayes.

Besides Lt. Summerhayes who saw him as I have described, he was seen by Lt. Perkins during the action, his face according to both, actually glowing with pleasure, as it used in Falmouth when he had the best of an argument. I have just got hold of a man in his company who was off when I previously wrote. His name is Wm. Armstrong, private in Co. A. He lives, at home, at 27 Canard St. Roxbury. He is intelligent and a good soldier. We saw your son fall at the clump of trees close to the fence, out in front of his company, his ankle broken by a piece of shell, or by case. He

fell on his knee, then turned on his side, and supporting himself on one arm, he waved his sword over his head with the other, and cried out forward to his men. He also cried out something, the man thinks, to Lt. Hibbard. He was however, while waving his sword again hit in the breast, and fell flat on the ground, probably never having another sensible moment. This is undoubtedly the correct account of his heroic death. He used always to be asking me, how an officer should bear himself in battle, when he should be behind and when before his men. I had always rather understated than overstated the amount of danger it was necessary to incur, because I had seen at Fredericksburg that he would be rather disposed to expose himself too much than otherwise. He certainly carried out to the letter the duty as he used to describe it of an officer charging at the head of his men, and he evidently felt all the joy that he supposed he should.

The stories about your son's body being disfigured are all moonshine. I saw him immediately the battle was over and had the body taken to a small barn in the rear. He was lying flat on his back close to the clump of trees within 15 feet of the rail fence where the rebels were forced to halt. His face though very white, was absolutely calm and natural. He was shot through one of his arms and the breast on the same side, which nobody can remember, whether by a case bullet or by a musket bullet, I can't say, but certainly not by a fragment. One foot was bent clear out from the leg at the ankle and the ankle was apparently broken by a fragment

of a shell. His sword was by his side, but his pistol was gone. Lt. Perkins says he saw it in your son's hand at one time during the action and he may have dropped it. I had his body taken to the hospital immediately by a detail, one of whom was Joseph Chapman Co. 6. supposing of course that it would be sent home. The detail was only allowed to go to a small barn some hundreds of yards to the rear, as the battle was not yet considered over. When the detail reported it to me, I sent back private Chapman who remained as guard over the body and effects all night and part of the next morning, while I was sending to the regular hospital, reported to me to be some miles to the rear, but which I never had a chance to visit, to have Dr. Hayward send the body home. He sent me word that it was impossible, Ropes and Revere he had got off, before the action was over, but that now, there were so many wounded and such limited transportation, that he would have to be buried. I immediately went myself to brig. div. and corps commanders to see if I couldn't get a pass, but was refused everywhere.

All these were regular officers and knew his brother and said they would do it if they could, but that it was impossible. I then had the body brought to our position in the pits, took off the sword and belt which were sent you, had a grave dug, but deferred burying the body until dusk, because the bullets of the enemy's skirmishers who began to fire on us made it necessary to keep every man down. At dusk, I received an intimation from Dr.H. to send the body to him before 8 o'clock next morning. It was then so dark, that it would have been impossible for the men to find

F

their way to the hospital. I accordingly waited until 4 o'clock the next morning, when I sent the body. The detail, when back, reported that they had got the body there at 7. Immediately after, we were drawn up in line under orders and at noon marched away. I supposed of course that the body had been sent, until I heard the day or the next day after, that the Dr. had been unable to send it and that he had been buried.

When he fell, Sergeant Hanscom and the remnant of his company were some feet behind him following his lead.

Sergeant Michael O'Connor Co. F. since gone to the hospital and about to be discharged and sent to Milford where he lives, I sent with the body when it went to the hospital where Dr. H. was.

He fell at least 2 miles I should think from the brick house you mention, if it is the one I remember. The spot is North West of the house. It is about half way between the mountains on our extreme left and Cemetery hill on our centre. There was a rail fence over a very low stone wall. The fence we had torn down, and with the stones and a little earth had made a low rampart. It was a continuation of the high stone wall just below the crest of Cemetery hill. The Emmetsburg road at the hill was only a few rods in rear of this wall. Where we lay, a half or 3/4 mile more to the left of our position, the road was so far to the rear as to be out of sight. This was our position when the battle began and we lay there until, after destroying the regiment that advanced against our immediate front, we rushed up to the right, some 15 rods or so.

Copied C. B. Robins

Memoir of the Twentieth Regiment Mass. Vol. Infantry. Nov.r 10th 1862 to Jan.r 1st 1864.

[See the Adjutant General's (Mass.) Report for 1863, p. 680, where many passages in this Paper are omitted]

The Report of the Twentieth Regiment for 1862, closed Nov. 10th - The Army of the Potomac, then on the march from Harper's Ferry, had been stopping a few days at Warrenton, Va. during which time General Burnside was placed in command.

The Twentieth was at this time attached to the 3d Brigade (Col. Hall) 2nd Div. (Genl. Howard) 2nd Corps (Genl. Couch) — The 2nd and 6th Corps formed the Right Grand Division under Genl. Sumner.

Nov. 15th the Army was again in motion, and on the noon of the 18th the Twentieth reached Falmouth, Va. Daily expecting to cross the Rappahannock, very indifferent shelters were put up by the men, but in the course of a week, no movement having been made, and the weather being very severe, log houses were built.

On the night of Decr. 10th the Twentieth was recalled from picket, camp was broken up at midnight and at sunrise next morning the 2nd Div. was

on the banks of the Rappahannock directly opposite Fredericksburg. The forenoon was spent in fruitless attempts by the Engineer to lay a pontoon bridge, the fire of the enemy's sharp shooters from the buildings on the opposite bank rendering every effort unsuccessful - A heavy cannonade directed for hours on the city seemed to have little or no effect, except on the buildings; the sharp shooters re-appearing the moment the firing ceased.

Towards the middle of the afternoon, it being apparent that the enemy could not be dislodged by the artillery fire, Colonel Hall commanding the brigade proposed to Genl. Burnside who was then on the spot, that a portion of his brigade should cross the river in boats and drive the enemy from the opposite bank. The proposition meeting the approval of Genl. Burnside the 7th Michigan, 19th and 20th Mass. crossed at once.

So bold and sudden was the movement and so unexpected to the enemy, that it instantly brought nearly all of them from their hiding places, and waiting only to discharge their pieces on the leading boats they hastily disappeared up the streets leading from the river. A few, who still remained in the buildings firing, were captured by the 7th Michigan.

While the three regiments were forming on the

bank of the river, the enemy reinforced had rallied on one of the main streets running parallel with the river.

The 7th Michigan and 19th Mass. were directed to push forward as skirmishers and soon coming upon the enemy, in force posted behind the buildings, could proceed no further in skirmishing order.

Major Macy commanding the Twentieth then received orders to advance his regiment in column by companies up the street leading from the bridge. The position of the Twentieth at once became exceedingly trying. The enemy protected by the buildings on the right and left poured a most galling fire upon the regiment, from every point from garret to cellar windows.

It was of vital importance that the street leading to the bridge head should be held, and only by so doing could the troops now over the river hope for assistance from the balance of the brigade, which on the other side, was awaiting the completion of the bridge. Under this terrible fire the Twentieth moved steadily forward, the enemy gradually falling back, until at sunset the firing ceased. The bridge meantime had been completed, over which the 2d Corps crossed during the night. Although the 7th Michigan,

19th" and 20th" Mass. crossed the river in boats and were the only regiments in the brigade that so crossed; yet to the 7th" Mich. is due the chief praise, that regiment being the only one that was under fire while on the river. At day light the next morning it was found that the enemy had fallen back to his earth works on the heights in rear of the city. No further advance was made that day, and with the exception of an occasional shell from the enemy, every thing was quiet. About 2 P.M. on the following day, Hall's Brigade was hurried out of the city; and crossing a field swept by the enemy's artillery, formed in line and advanced on the earth works. The loss under the artillery fire had been heavy; but as the line neared the rifle pits, a withering fire from the front and flank was opened upon it. The distance to be gained was such, that a single line advancing under a fire like this could not have reached the enemy's rifle pits with sufficient numbers to have carried or held them. Supports which were to have come up, for reasons which it is not necessary here to give, did not arrive in time to be of any assistance. To save the brigade from total annihilation its commander gave the order to retire, and what was left of the

line fell back in good order about thirty yards under cover of some rising ground. For the remainder of the afternoon the line remained in this position, subjected to a severe artillery fire. At midnight the brigade was relieved by a Division of the 5th Corps, and the Twentieth returned to the city. This was Saturday the 13th inst. On the Monday night following the army recrossed the Rappahannock, and at day light the next morning were in their old camps near Falmouth. The following were the casualties among the officers in the engagements of both days.

Capt. Charles F. Cabot killed.
Lt. L. F. Alley killed
Capt. Ferdinand Dreher severely wounded, from the effects of which he has since died.
Lt. R. S. Beckwith mortally wounded, (since died).
Capt. Allen Sheppard wounded in the ankle.
Lt. A. R. Curtis in the leg.
Lt. T. M. McKay in the shoulder.
Lt. H. E. Wilkins in the arm.

At the close of the second day's battle there were but two officers remaining in the left wing, and three in the right. In each engagement one third of the officers and men that went into action

were killed or wounded.

23 enlisted men were killed, 132 wounded and 2 missing.

Capts. Archer and Cabot, and Lieuts. Beckwith and Alley were able and gallant officers and much esteemed in the Regt. Capts. Archer and Cabot were among the original officers of the Twentieth.

Capt. Archer was shot through the head at Ball's Bluff and his recovery seemed almost a miracle. But his constitution was much shattered by this remarkable wound, and had he been a man of less courage and determination, would not have returned to the field, for it was most evident he was never again fit for it.

When wounded the second time he had no strength to meet it and sank slowly but surely.

Capt. Cabot had been with the regiment in every action up to Fredericksburg, and was one of the few officers that had never been wounded.

He was killed instantly as his company was advancing up the street leading from the bridge.

Lieuts. Beckwith and Alley were commissioned from the ranks for efficiency and distinguished gallantry. They, too were among the original members

of the Twentieth, coming out with the regiment as sergeants.

In the street fight these officers behaved with the greatest coolness, and both escaped; but on the following day as our lines neared the enemy's rifle pits Lt. Beckwith received a wound of which he died in a few days. As an associate with the men of the Regt. while in the ranks, and as a brother officer he is remembered with love and pride.

Lt. Alley was killed instantly about the same time Lt. Beckwith was wounded. This officer was a man of most indomitable resolution and courage, of great practical common sense, and a most remarkable knowledge of men. These qualities were acquired by a life of vicissitude and danger, which had tempered the natural warmth and cordiality of his disposition, with a stern and unyielding decision in overcoming all obstacles in the path of duty. In short he impressed all who knew him in the army with the belief that he was a man to be trusted and relied upon in the most critical situations, while no one could look for a more devoted and faithful friend.

Shortly after the return of the Twentieth to Falmouth, Col. Lee resigned. The Colonel on account of

severe illness was obliged to leave the Regt. at Harper's Ferry in October, but rejoined us at Fredericksburg on the night of the 14th inst. though still very unwell. How much he was esteemed out of the Regiment as an Officer will be seen by the order by which he was discharged. The letters immediately following the order shows how deeply the loss was felt in the Regiment.

Head Quarters Right Grand Division
Camp near Falmouth, Va. Decr. 17th 1862.

Special Order
No. 60

Col. W. R. Lee 20th Mass. Vols. having tendered his resignation, he is hereby honorably discharged the Military service of the United States.

It is regretted that disability compels this resignation.

By Command of
Maj Genl. Sumner
Sgnd. J. H. Taylor.
Chief of Staff & A. A. G.

Head Quarters 20th Mass. Vols.
Camp near Falmouth, Va.
Decr. 21st 1862.

The Officers of the Twentieth here present, in

behalf of themselves and their absent brothers, earnestly desire to express to their Colonel who is now retiring from the post he has so long held with such honor to himself and his regiment, their affection and appreciation, and their regret for the necessity which compels him to leave them.

Entering the regiment as strangers, your constant and truly parental kindness begot in us an almost filial love. Your example taught us more perfectly than we could learn elsewhere to strive not only to acquire the discipline of soldiers, but the high feelings and patriotic self sacrifice of chivalrous gentlemen. How could we, young and with comparatively little to leave behind, repine at any self-denial, when we saw our Colonel, leaving wife and children, constantly endure without thought of self, hardships which tested the strength of the strongest, and face without shrinking, danger which tried the courage of the bravest hearts.

It moved us at once to admiration and to sadness, to see you defying with indomitable will, the sickness and exhaustion to which any other would have yielded, and returning again and again in spite of failing strength to lead your regiment or command the brigade through every hard fought action.

And now, Sir, that the ill health against which you have so nobly borne up compels you to resign the command of the regiment whose fame is identified with your own - you will not be less present to our hearts and remembrances as a tender friend and gallant commander, than when you were present to lead us forward in the field.

Geo. N. Macy	Maj. Comdg	20 Mass. Vols.
Nathan Hayward	Surgeon	" " "
C. W. Folsom	Quartermaster	" " "
C. W. Holmes Jr.	Capt.	" " "
H. L. Abbott	Capt.	" " "
C. L. Tilden	Capt	" " "
C. A. Whittier	1st Lt. & A. D. C.	
Wm F. Milton	1st Lt. & A. D. C.	
James Murphy	1st Lt. 20th Mass Vols	
H. C. Mason	1st Lt.	" " "
H. L. Patten	1st Lt. & Adjt.	
Henry Ropes	2nd Lt. 20th Mass. Vols.	
Wm F. Perkins	2nd Lt.	" " "
Saml Willard	2nd Lt.	" " "

On the 20th of January, 1863, Orders were received to be in readiness to move at short notice. On the 21st and 22d several Corps on left of the 2d moved to the right, but

the 2nd Corps still remained in camp. On the 23rd the ~~the~~ troops all came back, the movement having been given up.

On the 25th inst. the Twentieth broke up camp and moved to the village of Falmouth, using some of the buildings there for barracks. While here the regiment was chiefly employed in provost duty, although it picketed the river for some distance.

Nothing of interest occurred during the months of February and March. The regiment still remained at Falmouth.

About the middle of April the Twentieth was again called upon to part with its Colonel. The severe wound which Col. Palfrey received at Antietam, it was found, would not allow him for a long period, if ever, to return to active field service. Resigned April 13, 1863.

It was with the most unfeigned sorrow the regiment learned that they must part with this Officer who up to the time of his wound had not been absent from the field a day.

The great amount of labor that devolved upon Colonel Palfrey after the unfortunate affair at Ball's Bluff, when the only field Officer left, he gathered up the fragments of the regiment, and by most untiring application brought it up to that high standard of discipline

and efficiency which so characterized it in all the battles on the Peninsula; is most deeply felt and appreciated.

His devotion to the regiment; his constant fidelity to duty, his considerate kindness to Officers and men, endeared him to both; and Colonel Palfrey carries with him in his retirement from his long and honorable service, their earnest sympathy in all that he has suffered and is long destined to suffer from his wounds.

On the 27th and 28th of April portions of the Army of the Potomac moved up the Rappahannock. On the 29th two Divisions of the 2nd Corps also moved up the river towards Chancellorsville, but the 2d Division now under the command of Genl. Gibbon still remained at Falmouth. At 2 o'clock on the morning of May 3d the 2d Division moved to the banks of the river directly opposite Fredericksburg, precisely the same position occupied by the Div. on the morning of Decr 11th. The engineers had again been driven from their work on the pontoon bridge by the enemy's sharp shooters on the opposite bank; and the scenes of last winter were being repeated. Shortly after daylight a portion of the 6th Corps which had crossed the river a few days before, several miles

below Fredericksburg; moved up the South bank of the river into the city, thus flanking the enemy's sharp shooters who at once fell back. By 8 o'clock the bridge was completed, and the Division crossed into the city, marching up the streets which were but too well remembered by the Twentieth, passing the graves of their comrades who fell there last winter. After a short halt Hall's Brigade moved up the river and was soon out of the city. The Twentieth while taking a position assigned to it by the Brigade Commander was for a few moments under a severe artillery fire which the enemy opened on them from the heights. Capt. O. W. Holmes, Jr. was severely wounded in the ankle. This was the third time this officer had been wounded. Capt James Murphy was wounded in the arm. Two enlisted men were killed and 12 wounded. At 10 o'clock a storming party from the 6th Corps carried the heights of Fredericksburg capturing guns and prisoners. A general movement of all our forces immediately followed, and in a few moments all were on the heights. The enemy meantime had fallen back on a second line, a mile in rear of the first, and from that position immediately opened upon us with his artillery; but as our forces advanced the enemy retired.

The 6th Corps immediately pushed on in the direction of Chancellorsville and the 2d Division returned to the city. On the following morning the enemy re-occupied the Heights and at once advanced their skirmishers to the edge of the city. Here they were met by the skirmishers of Hall's brigade, and a lively firing at once commenced. But the day wore away, and no further advance was made on either side, the skirmishers having the fight all to themselves. A front of nearly five miles was covered by these skirmishers, Hall's brigade alone holding the city all day, the other two brigades of the 2d Division having recrossed the river the night before. The next morning, May 5th, it was learned that the Army at Chancellorsville had withdrawn to the North bank of the Rappahannock; and under cover of a heavy fog this brigade recrossed the river, and once more returned to Falmouth. For the few weeks following nothing occurred worthy of note, the time being chiefly occupied in battalion, brigade and division drills. About the middle of May, Col. Revere returned to the Regiment. On the morning of June 15th the 2d Corps now under the command of Genl. Hancock, withdrew from the Rappahannock.

On the 19th of June the Twentieth arrived at

Centreville, and the next day marched to Thoroughfare Gap, where the Corps was encamped for several days.

On the morning of the 25th, the march was resumed, the enemy shelling the rear of our column as it withdrew from the Gap. On the afternoon of the 26th, the Corps reached Edward's Ferry, crossed the Potomac, and that night the Twentieth bivouacked in Poolesville, Md., not far from their old "Camp Benton". The next morning the regiment marched by Camp Benton and had the pleasure of seeing many of their old chimneys still remaining.

What scenes the regiment had been through since it left that camp in the Spring of 1862; and how few of the original members were with the regiment this morning. Most vividly did the sight of the old camp bring to their recollection the many they had left behind on one field and another.

Passing through the town, they received many salutations, and kind treatment from the inhabitants who had not forgotten their old friends of the winter of 1861.

Sunday afternoon, 28th, the Twentieth reached Frederick City, Md. The following day the Corps marched thirty-two miles. On several occasions

during this campaign the regiment had marched over twenty miles in one day, but this was the severest one of all.

The 2nd Corps arrived within two miles of the battle field of Gettysburg on the night of July, 1st. Early the next morning it took its position on "Cemetery Ridge", half way down to "Round Top." In the afternoon an advance of the 3d Corps (which joined the 2d) was witnessed from this position.

Later in the day that Corps returned closely followed by great masses of the enemy's troops, which now appeared also on the front of the 2d Corps. Our Artillery at once opened a terrible fire, causing the greatest slaughter in the ranks of the advancing troops; but not all the batteries in the Corps could stay the tide as it rolled steadily on, nearing our lines of infantry, which, all this time lying on their faces, only waited for the word. The Twentieth was at this time in the second line, and not actively engaged, nor exposed to a very heavy fire, being protected by the rising ground, though not thirty yards from the front line. That line reserved its fire until the evening was nearly upon it, and then opened with such terrible effect on the approaching troops now much broken and disorganized

evening "is evidently slip for "enemy." E.B.L.

by the Artillery fire, that it swept everything before it.

When the firing ceased nothing remained on our front save the dead and wounded.

The struggle had been a terrible one. The enemy, supposing the whole army was falling back, had thrown immense masses of his troops upon this portion of our line, and little expected the combined fire of the 2d. and 5th. Corps, with portions of the 1st. and 12th. which had been hurried to the spot.

Although but few in the Twentieth were wounded that night, yet the regiment had met with a sad loss. Colonel Revere had been mortally wounded.

There was but little rest for the men that night, the rattling of the ambulances, and the cries of the wounded keeping away all sleep.

All the following morning there was an ominous and painful silence. Suddenly between 1 and 2 o'clock from 150 guns, massed directly in front of the 2d. Corps, the enemy opened a furious cannonade on our line, the fire being concentrated on the 2d. Corps. An almost imperceptible rise of the ground in front of the regiment, partially

sheltered the line from a fire which would otherwise have destroyed it. The men by lying on their faces barely escaped the flying shot and shell which struck the ground about ten feet in front of the line, covering the men with dust and dirt. Occasionally a shot from some of the enemy's guns more elevated than the rest came through the ranks. For two hours this fire lasted, and then the enemy's infantry was seen emerging from the woods about three quarters of a mile in front of our position. They came on in three lines, Picket's Div. of Longstreet's Corps being in the advance.

All of our batteries that had not been silenced at once directed their fire on the approaching lines. The effect of every shot could be seen from the position the Twentieth occupied; but the gaps made in the enemy's ranks closed up immediately, and the lines moved steadily forward in a manner which at once moved all our troops to admiration. As on the night before, so now, the fire of the infantry was reserved until the hostile lines were within but a few paces of them, and at the command of Lt. Col. Macy the regiment opened a well directed and steady fire on the line which was now so near, that the faces of the advancing

foe could be distinctly recognized. That portion of the enemy's line in front of the Twentieth broke and scattered as our fire opened on it. The few who escaped obliqued to the right of our brigade, where the three advancing lines of the enemy had come together in one mass, giving at first the appearance and impression that the lines were there forming into a column of attack: but it was afterwards learned that their position was simply the result of the terrible fire they had met, and which so disorganized them that they closed together in this manner. And in this condition a desperate rush was made by them, which looked more than any thing else like an advance of an acre of men.

At this point one of our batteries more advanced than the others was temporarily captured, the enemy having broken in at that part of the line. At this critical moment the Twentieth together with the rest of the brigade moved to the spot on the double quick, our line swinging round nearly at right angles with the former position, and closing up on the front and flank of the enemy. A similar movement was made at the same time by our troops the other side of the breach, so that the line formed a half circle into which the

enemy was pushing.

The scene which followed beggars all description. Into this mass of the enemy's troops was poured a most galling fire from every side; and, their progress just at this moment being delayed by a rail fence which they were obliged to climb, more of our troops had time to hasten to the spot, thus ensuring to the enemy a final repulse. Seeing how worse than useless it was to attempt a further advance, they endeavored to fall back, but retreat for most of them had been cut off, and large numbers threw down their arms and surrendered.

The Twentieth went into this action with 12* officers and 218 men. It came out that night with one Capt. two Lieuts and 116 men.

*Should be 13
Killed 3
Wounded 7
10
Absent 3
13
E.B. Robinson

The following is a list of casualties.

Col. P. J. Revere, mortally wounded.
1st Lieut. Henry Ropes, Killed
2nd " Sumner Paine, Killed

Wounded: Lt. Col. Geo. N. Macy, hand amputated.
Capt. H. C. Mason, thigh.
Capt. H. L. Patten, hand and thigh.
Adjt. W. H. Walker, thigh.
2d Lt. John Kelliher, thigh.
2d " L. E. Hubbard, arm.

2d Lt. Charles Cowgill, leg.

23 enlisted men were killed, 78 wounded, and 1 missing. About 15 of the wounded have since died.

The following tribute from one, who, from constant association with Colonel Revere since the Regiment left the State, knew and most fully appreciated his rare and noble qualities, meets with a warm response from every officer.

Written by Sergt. N. Hayward 20th Mass. See his letter of Jan. 20/64

"To the list of the original officers now lost to this regiment, some by death, some by disability from sickness or wounds, and others by promotion in regiments of later enlistment, Gettysburg has added the name of Colonel Paul J. Revere.

The officers remaining cherish the remembrance of their respected names. With regret for the absent and sorrow for the dead is also felt pride in their career and gratitude for their services.

Colonel Revere's strong character exerted an influence upon the regiment that is still felt. Brave, chivalrous, self sacrificing, gentle and generous, he set a noble example of private virtues, and in the establishment and discipline of the regiment his force impressed both officers and men.

The worthy possessed in him a friend upon whom to repose an absolute trust. The unworthy found him a stern and contemptuous adversary.

His discipline was severe but not debasing: manly sentiments were encouraged not repressed. By its means self respect was fostered in the minds of the aspiring, and begotten where it did not exist.

It was demonstrated that discipline should be essential, not merely formal: that obedience, correctness, and zeal were qualities not of external and superficial value alone, for the improvement of the machinery of the service, but, that the man himself was to be benefitted by their observance:-that it was for his own advantage and to his own credit that discipline was to be exercised:- that the fear of punishment was a low motive, only to be appealed to when higher motives failed;-but, if they failed, the alternative, ignoble and disgraceful as it was, would be inevitable.

Military discipline involves submission on the part of inferior, and authority on that of superior. Any other than such relations are incompatible with the fact and the idea of discipline: but the motives for the exercise of authority and obedience may be as

diverse as Christianity and paganism.

While the forms remain the same, obedience may, in conscious opposition to law, be rendered from fear, or exacted by force. This is destructive of individuality in the man. It is slavish and unchristian. Authority may be used selfishly and without reference to law. This is tyrannical and unchristian. On the other hand, obedience should be rendered by voluntary self sacrifice to the law and authority exercised with equal abnegation of self. This is ennobling, loyal and Christian, and this was the discipline of Colonel Revere.

While with Roman Justice Colonel Revere would not spare the incorrigible villain, his support was always ready for the weak: the sick and suffering would be attended by him with the gentleness of a father.

He was warmly attached to his regiment, and, even while absent from it in the summer of 1862 as Corps Inspector on Genl. Sumner's staff, he still loved to be near it, and at Antietam he rode against the enemy and was wounded in front of its advancing line.

His health had been permanently impaired by confinement as a prisoner of war in Richmond,

but his staunch endurance would not succumb to his disease. In sickness as in health he was still the cheerful and dauntless Christian soldier. He was carried to his last battle field in an ambulance.

Gettysburg has cost his Regiment a deeply respected and beloved Commander, and Massachusetts has lost a citizen worthy of that name (praeclarum et venerabile nomen) Paul Revere."

Few tears are shed by soldiers over their comrades killed in action, but even while the battle of Gettysburg was still raging, officers and men wept alike over Lieut. Ropes. The space allowed in this report is too brief to give a just estimate of his worth. Spared up to this battle through every thing; having been in every action since Ball's Bluff, and by a most remarkable preservation having escaped unhurt, he was here cut down in an instant. He was physically so strong that no exposures seemed to affect him; while no hardships could disturb the cheerfulness of his temper. Wholly devoted to his duty; thoroughly chivalrous and manly, kindly and generous; he added to it all the graces of a remarkably pure and Christian life.

The officers of the Regiment cannot even now

speak of this loved brother without tears.

Lieut. Paine had been with the regiment but a few months, but long enough to show that he was an officer of remarkable ability.

He joined the regiment the day before the battle of Fredericksburg in May, and in that action had command of a company. In the battle of Gettysburg he behaved with the greatest gallantry falling, twice wounded, just at the close of the last struggle.

He will ever be remembered by the officers in the regiment, who in sadness add his name to the long list of the noble dead of the Twentieth.

Leaving the battle field on the afternoon of the 5th the Twentieth bivouacked that night about five miles from it. There had been a heavy rain the night before and the roads were in a very bad condition; added to this the men were exhausted with the labours of the last three days having had little sleep.

The march was resumed the next morning over these slippery roads and on the 8th the Twentieth again passed through Frederick City, on the 9th over South Mountain, and on the 10th over the old

Antietam battle ground, passing the spot where the Twentieth was in action that day. On the 14th the Regiment pushed to the Potomac near Williamsport and came upon the rear guard of the enemy. On the 15th it arrived at Harper's Ferry, and the next day went into camp in "Pleasant Valley," where the Army of the Potomac was encamped the October before.

Two days were allowed here to rest and to supply the great deficiency in clothing, &c. - At 5 o'clock on the morning of the 18th the Twentieth crossed the Potomac and moved up the valley between the Blue Ridge and Bull Run mountains, thus taking the same course that was followed last year.

The 21st inst. found the regiment at Snicker's Gap, the 22d at Ashby's Gap, and on the 23d it pushed through Manassas Gap as the rear guard of the enemy, moved up the Shenandoah Valley in the direction of Front Royal. On the 24th the regiment left Manassas Gap, 26th passed through Rectorstown and Warrentow and went into camp that night near Warrentow Junction - On the 30th inst. the Corps moved about ten miles further South, and went into a permanent Camp at Morrisville, four or five miles North East of Kelly's Ford on the

Rappahannock.

The much needed rest was now given to the men. The heat was intense and but a short time was given to drill at sunrise and sunset. Nothing disturbed the quiet until the 25th of August. On that day the Twentieth received 183 conscripts or rather, 1 conscript and 182 substitutes. The number of hours for drill was of course increased, at least for the new men. On the 31st the 2d Corps made a reconnoissance down the Rappahannock to within four miles of Falmouth.

The object of the reconnoissance having been accomplished the Corps returned on the 3d of September having been absent from camp four days. On the 12th of September the Corps now under the command of Genl. Warren broke up camp and marched to Rappahannock station. On the following morning crossed the Rappahannock and reached Culpepper Court House in the afternoon. The cavalry a short distance in advance of the Corps had been skirmishing more or less during the whole movement, but the infantry was not called into action. From the 13th to the 16th the Corps was encamped on the heights

about Culpepper. The cavalry meantime pushed down to the Rapid Ann, and had several warm engagements with the Cavalry of the enemy which were witnessed from the heights where the Corps was encamped. On the 17th the Corps advanced to the Rapid Ann, the 2d Division picketing the river in the vicinity of Somerville and Raccoon Fords. The enemy occupied a strong position on the heights on the other side. The Regiment remained here about three weeks, during which time the picket details were very heavy, and the duty much more disagreeable than usual as there was constant firing on both sides, neither party being able until the last week to come to any amicable terms. Several of the men were wounded here. While in this camp an affair occurred which for many weeks cast the deepest gloom over the Regiment;

On the night of October 5th, Capt. Thomas M. McKay a most efficient and highly esteemed officer, met with his death under the most painful circumstances. Shortly after midnight, there being a disturbance among some intoxicated men of one of the companies, Capt. McKay, who was at the time officer of the day, went out to stop it. The

disturbance was very slight, being confined to two or three men, and quiet was nearly restored, when there was a loud report of a musket, followed by cries for help. In an instant several were on the spot, and found Capt. McKay lying on the ground, unable to speak. He had been shot through the body, and expired in a few moments. The Regiment was at once turned out under arms and every gun examined, none showing any evidence of having recently been fired. The men were all present but one gun was missing. The man without a gun was beyond suspicion, and his statement that his gun had been taken from the place he left it, was not doubted a moment. Search was immediately made and a gun was found under a bush half way between the line of the Twentieth and another Regiment. It was at once recognized and claimed by this man. The gun had been cleaned that night, it was now foul, and an exploded cap was on the tube. Although a rigid examination was made on the following day of all who were near the spot at the time of the murder, and although every conceivable effort has since been made to

obtain some light on the subject; the whole matter is to-day, wrapt in painful mystery. The thought cannot be entertained a moment that any man who knew Capt. McKay could have committed this act. Always most fair and just, firm but kind to a fault; with a most scrupulous attention to the necessities of his men, no officer was paid higher respect, or received more cheerful obedience. This just appreciation of his worth by the men, was very marked through all his connection with the Regiment. The deep gloom caused by his death, the large contributions which were made by the men as a reward for any one who would lead to the conviction of the murderer, were but additional evidences of their regard.

On the 6th. of October the 2d. Corps relieved by the 6th. Corps, moved back to Culpepper and went into camp on the heights North of that place. On the 9th. it was discovered that the enemy was moving in force on the right of the Army of the Potomac. Preparations were at once made to move, eight days' rations were issued to the men. On the 10th. the Corps moved a little to the South West of the town, and, deploying in the wood, remained there during the day to guard against any move-

ment of the enemy at that point. The trains in the meantime were sent back to the Rappahannock. Between 2 and 3 o'clock the following morning the Corps very quietly withdrew and at daylight passed Brandy Station, crossed the Rappahannock at noon, and that night bivouacked near Bealton Station. At noon on the following day the Corps recrossed the Rappahannock and moved as far as Brandy Station. The Cavalry were warmly engaged with the enemy a short distance in advance of the Corps, but the infantry were not called into action here. At 11 o'clock that night the Twentieth was again in motion, crossed the Rappahannock a third time, and shortly before noon halted near Sulphur Spring a little South of Warrenton. The march was resumed in the afternoon, and that night the Twentieth rested near Warrenton Junction. Scarcely was the column in motion the next morning before a lively cannonade opened in the rear and on the flank. The 2d Corps was the rear guard of the army, and the enemy had now fairly come up with it. There was constant skirmishing all the morning and as the column neared Catlett's Station a portion of the enemy's cavalry

with a battery of Light Artillery appeared on the heights directly in front of the column, but quickly retired as the infantry skirmishers advanced steadily forward. In this manner, the Corps, nearly surrounded at one time, pushed its way through, and at noon reached Catlett's Station. The march was resumed after a short halt. One Division remaining in position at Catlett's the 2d. Division, to which the Twentieth is attached, moved on parallel with the Rail Road.

It was the general impression that the Corps was now comparatively safe, and if any anxiety was felt it was for the Division still remaining at Catlett's, but as the 2d. Division neared Bristow Station, a few scattering shots from the woods showed that we were again upon the enemy, and as our column emerged from the woods, not an eighth of a mile from us the enemy in line of battle was seen sweeping down upon our flank. So sudden and unexpected an assault might well have proved the destruction of troops of less experience, but with a coolness characteristic of the 2d. Division, they at once threw themselves behind the railroad embankment, and quietly awaited the approach of the enemy. The splendid advance of their line

as it bore down upon the rail-road will never be forgotten by the troops who were anxiously awaiting it. The Twentieth reserved its fire until the hostile line was within but a few paces of them; and at the command of Major Abbott opened a most terrible fire upon it.

With nothing to cover the enemy, where every shot against them told, and where every shot of theirs in return was only so much waste of powder and ball against the rail-road iron and embankment, it was simply Fredericksburg reversed; what was left of the line fell back. So terrible was their repulse at all points, for the Regiments on the right and left of the Twentieth had been no less successful; that in retiring they abandoned a battery of five guns. This was not discovered until a few men from the 1st Co. Mass. Sharp Shooters (attached to the Twentieth), sent out to pick off the enemy's gunners, pushed out to the woods, and brought in two guns. Other regiments at once sent out and brought in the remaining three. The highest praise is due to this Company, of Sharp

Shooters for their gallantry, especially to Corp. Curtis who had charge of the first detachment that went out. The troops that had been repulsed by the 2d. Div. belonged to A. P. Hill's Corps. Just at dusk the Division left at Catlett's came up, closely followed by Ewell's Corps. About 9 o'clock that evening the 2d. Corps moved on again, crossed the plains of Manassas that night, and towards morning climbed up the heights behind Bull Run, and while doing so were forcibly reminded of the battle of Nelson's Farm, and the night march from that field to Malvern Hills. The next morning the enemy came up to Bull Run, and throughout the day there was constant skirmishing, but no general engagement. The casualties in the action at Bristow Station, owing to the complete protection the regiment had there, were very slight. One man was killed and six wounded. The Company of Sharp Shooters had two men wounded.

On Monday the 19th., the enemy having left our front, the whole army moved forward. Col. Macy was now in command of the Regiment having returned while we were lying at Bull Run. The Twentieth halted that night within a

mile of the battle field of Bristow. The next morning the 2d. Corps moved through Greenwich and went into camp in the afternoon near Auburn. On the 23d. moved within a mile or two of Warrenton. The Twentieth remained here in camp a fortnight, while the railroad which had been destroyed by the enemy was being rebuilt. On the 7th. of November the Corps moved to Kelly's Ford and on the 8th. crossed the Rappahannock. The 3d. and 6th. Corps were warmly engaged with the enemy the day before driving him from his position on both banks of the river, capturing guns and prisoners, but the 2d. Corps was not called into action. On the 10th. of November the Twentieth went into camp at Mountain Run near Brandy Station. On Thursday the 26th. of November instead of taking a Thanksgiving dinner which was being prepared for the men, the Twentieth broke up camp, marched to the Rapid Ann, and at sunset without opposition crossed near Germanna Ford. On the 27th. moved through the "Wilderness" (near Chancellorsville) and at noon came to a point where the roads forked, near old Verdiesville. Ewell's Corps

coming down another road at the same moment, the two Corps met. Heavy skirmishing followed, which was kept up the remainder of the day. That night the Twentieth was on picket. Early the next morning an advance was ordered and the whole of the Regiment at once moved forward as skirmishers through a very dense wood, and in a short time came upon the enemy's skirmishers which were driven across Mile Run to the enemy's strong position on the opposite bank. No further advance was made that day, but constant firing was kept up by the skirmishers until dark and several of our men were wounded.

The Twentieth was relieved that night and moved back a short distance. The next morning the 2d. Corps moved to the extreme left of the Army to prolong the line. As the Corps neared the position to be taken, the Twentieth was again called upon as skirmishers, one regiment being all that was required to cover the front of the Division. Moving from the plank road into the woods, the regiment, now under command of Colonel Macy, at once deployed, connecting on the left with the 28th. Mass. which

covered the front of the 1st Division. The line of skirmishers then moved forward at a rapid pace, coming upon the enemy's skirmishers before they had advanced quarter of a mile.

So sudden was our descent upon them, that the enemy's skirmishers were carried back on the run, scarcely having time to fire their pieces, much less to reload. In this manner they were driven back about a mile until the Twentieth came upon the enemy in strong position behind his earthworks and rifle pits. This was about sunset. The skirmishing line was halted, and pickets thrown out. The firing lasted until dark.

Late in the evening the Twentieth was relieved by the 19th Mass. and moved back a short distance from the picket line.

At 3 o'clock the next morning, by moonlight, the Corps took a position preparatory to storming the enemy's works. It was understood that an advance was to be made at 8 o'clock that morning. The 2d Corps, with two Divisions of the 3d and one Division of the 6th Corps, numbering in all 28,000 men, were

to carry the enemy's works. The advance was to be made in two lines, and under cover of some rising ground these lines were formed, the Twentieth being placed in the second. Between us and the enemy was an open field, the distance to their works being about half a mile. In front of the 2d Div. alone sixteen of the enemy's guns were planted to sweep this field the moment our lines appeared in sight. Every man in the Twentieth knew what was coming. Each Company Commander had in a few impressive words told them what would soon be expected of them, and in painful silence had they listened. With the knowledge of Gettysburg and Fredericksburg: these men who had held works, as well as stormed them, and who could appreciate the difference; with patient, quiet resolution received their instructions. Their expression of fixed determination gave the result of the inward struggle. If the works can be carried these men will carry them, for it is only a question in their minds whether they are to go over or fall before them. With what tender regard and glowing pride did the officers observe these men as they threw off their knapsacks ready for the work.

The hour for the advance came, and the anxious, restless state would soon give place to the excitement of the charge, for every man knew from his full experience, how light was the suffering when once in action in comparison with the suspense while preparing for it; and for this reason the time came none too soon. But with the hour, the order to advance did not come, and at 11 o'clock, three hours after the appointed time, it was learned the movement had been abandoned. The terrible loss of life which would attend the advance, in which it was estimated two thirds of the storming party would be sacrificed before reaching the enemy's rifle pits, would not admit of the movement with the accompanying chances of success.

The next day, December 1st, every thing was quiet, even the pickets on either side, advanced on the open ground to within half musket range of each other, were contented to lean on their arms, and observe each other with friendly curiosity. Shortly after dark the whole army fell back. At day light the 2d Corps crossed the Rapid Ann at Germanna Ford and that evening

the Twentieth was in its old camp at Mountain Run. On the 5th of December the Twentieth moved about four miles to Stevensburg and there went into Winter Quarters. While in this camp two thirds of the old members have re-enlisted for three years.

Since the Regiment left the State 12 officers and 151 enlisted men have been killed or died of wounds. 27 officers and 399 enlisted men have been wounded; 5 officers and 192 enlisted men have been taken prisoners, all of them at Ball's Bluff with the exception of twelve enlisted men wounded at Antietam. 90 men have deserted, about 60 of these were substitutes (this is simply mentioned out of regard for the old members of the Regiment, and is not meant to cast any imputation on the substitutes that still remain, who have shown themselves worthy to be associated with the old members). 21 have been apprehended and returned from desertion, 35 men have died of disease, 355 men have been discharged for disability, 54 have been transferred to the Invalid Corps.

The following officers have been transferred to the Invalid Corps; Capt. John C. Putnam, Capt. George A.

Schmitt, Capt. Allen Shepard, Capt. James Murphy, 1st Lieut. William R. Riddle, 1st Lieut Henry C. Wilkins.

On the 31st of December the Regiment numbered 512 enlisted men; of that number 257 were present for duty.

84 Veteran's Collection

Fort Fetterman, Wyoming Ter.
May 5th 1880.

Gen'l Francis W. Palfrey.

My dear General,

I sent to you as my mite $25, for the Monument that is to be erected for the officers of the old 20th that have gone before us. Please put the money in the hands of the Treasurer. - - - I am trying hard to bring my company up to the old 20th standard in drill and discipline. I have numerous tilts with the officers of the army, sometimes amusing, and sometimes warm, when I say that I have yet to see the Regular regiment that was as well drilled or disciplined as my old Volunteer regiment was.

General, I can assure you most seriously that it was no vain boast. We, in the regular army, are at work all the time at something outside of our legitimate duties. Tearing down old buildings, putting up others, making roads, building bridges, and a thousand other little things: as a soldier said who was helping to build Fort McKinney, about 120 miles north of here:- "This is the only legitimate soldier's duty I have done since I have been in the army." He was carrying a hod full of bricks up a ladder.

Hoping that you and yours are well and happy, I am

most sincerely your friend and well wisher

James H. Spencer. (Captain 4th U. S. Infantry)

Boston, February 22, 1897.

No regular records were ever made of the first reunions of the surviving officers of the 23rd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, after the close of the War, and no association was ever formally organized, nor were any officers chosen. The first meeting of the officers of the regiment was held at Young's Hotel, Boston, on Monday, October 22, 1866, at 5.0-clock P. M., in response to an invitation of General Francis W. Palfrey to a subscription dinner.

There were present: —

Brevet Brigadier-General William Raymond Lee.
Brevet Brigadier-General Francis W. Palfrey.
Brevet Major-General George N. Macy.
Surgeon . . . . . Henry Bryant
Brevet Major-General William Francis Bartlett.
Brevet Brigadier-General Charles L. Peirson.
Brevet Brigadier-General Edward N. Hallowell
Lieutenant-Colonel . . . . Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
Lieutenant-Colonel . . . . Arthur R. Curtis
Brevet Major . . . . . Herbert C. Mason
Captain . . . . . John C. Putnam
Lieutenant . . . . . Henry H. Sturgis
Lieutenant . . . . . George B. Perry.
Brevet Captain . . . . . Edward B. Robins.
Lieutenant . . . . . Nathaniel T. Messer.
Brevet Colonel . . . . . Charles W. Folsom.

The second meeting and subscription dinner of the officers was held at Young's Hotel, Boston, on Monday, September 30, 1867, at 6 P.M. There are no records of the officers present at this meeting. Evidently it was then decided to form an Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. A committee was formed to consider the matter, by whom an assessment of $5.00 was unanimously voted, as per circular of December 1, 1867.

The third meeting and subscription dinner of the officers was held at the Parker House, Boston, on Wednesday, October 21, 1868 at 6, P.M.

The name of the "Association of Officers of the Twentieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry" is first used on the invitation to this meeting.

There were present: —

Brevet Brigadier-General William Raymond Lee.
Brevet Brigadier-General Francis W. Palfrey.
Brevet Major-General . . . William Francis Bartlett.
Lieutenant-Colonel . . . Oliver Wendell Holmes. Jr.
~~Lieutenant~~-Colonel . . . . Norwood P. Hallowell.
Brevet Brigadier-General Edward N. Hallowell.
Brevet Major-General . . . George N. Macy.
Brevet Brigadier-General Charles L. Peirson.
Captain . . . . . John C. Putnam
Captain . . . . . Henry W. T. Mali. Jr.

over

Brevet Colonel Charles W. Folsom.
Brevet Captain Edward B. Robins.
Lieutenant . . . Henry H. Sturgis.
Lieutenant . . . Nathaniel T. Messer.
Captain . . . . C. Linzee Tilden.
Historian . . . . John Codman Ropes. Esq.

The proposition to raise a fund to "Our Dead", which (according to my recollection) was discussed at the two previous meetings, evidently first took decided and definite shape at this meeting. A committee was selected, probably consisting of General Palfrey, Col. N. P. Hallowell and Colonel Holmes. A subscription (which appears to have been the second one) was sent to General Palfrey on October 28, 1868.

Other subscriptions were made in 1868, and at various times subsequently, up to October, 1880.

There was never any formal vote about the Fund, nor was General Palfrey ever formally elected Treasurer. He simply received such money as was sent to him, and took charge of it with the most unselfish care, for he appears to have supplied from his own pocket the losses resulting from some unfortunate investment of part of the Fund.

The subject of a Monument was discussed at all meetings of the Association of Officers, but no

suitable design or location offered itself during the life of General Palfrey.

The fourth meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Parker House, Boston, on Thursday, October 21, 1869, at 5 P. M.

There were present: —

Brevet Brigadier-General	William Raymond Lee.
Brevet Brigadier-General	Francis W. Palfrey
Brevet Major-General . .	William Francis Bartlett.
Brevet Brigadier-General .	Charles L. Peirson.
Captain	John C. Putnam.
Lieutenant	Nathaniel T. Messer.
	Francis V. Balch Esq.
Brevet Brigadier-General .	Edward N. Hallowell.
Brevet Major-General . .	George N. Macy.
Captain	C. Linzee Tilden.
Captain	Henry W. T. Mali. Jr.
Brevet Captain	Edward B. Robins.
Lieutenant	Henry H. Sturgis.
Lieutenant-Colonel	Oliver Wendell Holmes. Jr.
Brevet Brigadier-General	Charles A. Whittier

The fifth meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Parker House, Boston, on Friday, October 21, 1870, at 5 P. M.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier-General	Francis W. Palfrey.
Brevet Brigadier-General	Charles L. Peirson.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.
Captain	John C. Putnam.
Captain	Gustave Magnitzky
Brevet Captain	Edward B. Robins.
Lieutenant	Arthur G. Sedgwick
Brevet Major General	George N. Macy.
Historian	John Codman Ropes Esq.
Lieutenant-Colonel	Oliver Wendell Holmes. Jr.
Lieutenant	Henry H. Sturgis
Captain	Henry W. T. Mali. Jr.
Brevet Brigadier-General	Charles A. Whittier.
Brevet Brigadier-General	Caspar Crowninshield.
Brevet Major	Herbert C. Mason.

General Palfrey, Treasurer, reported on October 9, 1870:—

Subscriptions to date	$2,550,00
Interest and dividends	161,96
	$2,711,96

Investments	$2,722,95
Balance due Treas	10,99
	2,711,96

He received later

October 12, 1870	Subscription	$55,00	
20, 1870		60,00	
29,		50,00	
December 5, 1870		6,92	$171,92
November 1, 1870	Coupons	$100,00	
December 31, 1870.	Dividends	44,00	144,00
			$315,92

The sixth meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Parker House, Boston, on Saturday, October 21, 1871 at 5 P. M.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier-General	Francis W. Palfrey
Brevet Brigadier-General	William Raymond Lee.
	Francis V. Balch, Esq.
Captain	John C. Putnam.
Brevet Major-General . .	William Francis Bartlett
Brevet Major-General .	George N. Macy
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.

over

Brevet Major . . . . . Herbert C. Mason.
Historian . . . . . John Codman Ropes Esq.
Brevet Captain . . . . Edward B. Robins.
Captain . . . . . Henry W. T. Mali. Jr.
Brevet Brigadier-General Charles L. Peirson
Brevet Brigadier-General Caspar Crowninshield.
Captain . . . . . George A. Schmitt

General Palfrey, Treasurer, reported the Fund on October 1, 1871: —

Subscriptions to date	$3,221,92
Interest, dividends and coupons	453,96
	$3,675,88

Investments	$3,609,78
Balance due from Treas.	66,10
	$3,675,88

The seventh meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Somerset Club, Boston, on Monday Oct. 21, 1872, at 6. P. M.

There were present: —

Brevet Brigadier-General William Raymond Lee.
Brevet Major-General . . . George N. Macy.
Brevet Brigadier-General . . Charles L. Peirson.

Brevet Brigadier-General	Francis W. Palfrey.
Captain	Henry W. T. Mali, Jr.
Historian	John Codman Ropes, Esq.
Brevet Major-General	William Francis Bartlett.
Captain	C. Linzee Tilden.
Brevet Major	Herbert C. Mason.
Brevet Captain	Edward B. Robins.
Captain	John C. Putnam.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.
Lieutenant-Colonel	Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
Brevet Brigadier General	Charles A. Whittier.
Brevet Brigadier General	Caspar Crowninshield.
Captain	William F. Milton.

General Palfrey, Treasurer, reported the Fund on October 1, 1872: —

Subscriptions to date		$3,416,92
Interest, dividends and coupons	$859,02	
Loss on changing investments	3,44	855,58
		$4,272,50

Investments	$4,272,02
Balance due from Treas.	,48
	$4,272,50

The eighth meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Somerset Club, Boston, on Tuesday, October 21, 1873 at 6 P.M.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier General	William Raymond Lee.
Brevet Major	Herbert C. Mason.
Brevet Major General	George N. Macy
~~Lieutenant~~-Colonel	Norwood P. Hallowell
Brevet Brigadier-General	Charles L. Peirson.
Brevet Brigadier General	Francis W. Palfrey.
Captain	John C. Putnam.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.
Brevet Captain	Edward B. Robins.
Captain	C. Linzee Tilden.
Captain	Henry W. T. Mali Jr.
Captain	George A. Schmitt.

General Palfrey, Treasurer, reported the Fund on September 20, 1873:—

No subscriptions since October 1. 1872		
Total of Fund on that date		$4,272,50
Coupons and dividends		340,00
		$4,612,50
Investments	$4,607.27	
Balance due from Treas	5,23	
	$4,612,50	

Two coupons, amounting to $100.00, have been passed during the year, but there is reason to believe that the suspension is only temporary, while the interest to date has been large.

This is the last report on the Fund by General Palfrey, and probably there were no more subscriptions, except one of $25.00 in October, 1880.

Boston, February 25. 1874.

General William F. Bartlett -

General -

At the last annual meeting of the Association of Officers of the Twentieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, held in Boston on the 21st day of October, 1873, it was unanimously voted upon the motion of Colonel Lee, that your son Edwin, being the first boy born to any one of us since the Association was formed, be made a member of the Association, and that a cup be presented to him as the child of the Regiment. I was charged with the duty of carrying this vote into effect, and I have this day the pleasure of forwarding to you by express, the cup for your boy, the design of which is intended to commemorate his Father's honorable service, and to throw into prominence his connection with the Twentieth Massachusetts, and the Second Corps.

With all our cordial good wishes for the health and prosperity of Father and son, I am Yours faithfully and always -

F. W. Palfrey.

Richmond, Va. March 15. 1874.

General F. W. Palfrey

My dear General,

I have tried in vain to write you a formal letter, acknowledging the receipt of yours of 25th of Feby, and later on my return home, of the beautiful cup for my boy. I am not ashamed to say that I can not do it. Any formal words that I can use seem to express so weakly the feelings that overrun my heart and my eyes that I must give it up.

You need no words of mine to tell you what a precious treasure this is to me and mine. The cup, beautiful and thoughtful as it is in design, and exquisite in workmanship, would be but an empty vessel did it not overflow with all the tender memories, the saddest and the proudest of my life. No man of our little group needs one word to tell him what I feel, that this gift of fortune should have fallen to me.

And for the dear boy, if he lives, and does not hold this as his dearest treasure, and be always a braver and a better man for its possession, may he be forgotten, he can never be forgiven. When I realize what he must become to be worthy of all this, and the fellowship of such a band of brothers, I tremble for him lest he inherit the shortcomings of his father

who is

Ever your loving comrade

Frank Bartlett.

The ninth meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Union Club, Boston, on Wednesday, October 21, 1874, at 6 P. M.

There were present: —

Brevet Brigadier General William Raymond Lee.
Captain . . . . . C. Linzee Tilden
Captain . . . . . John C. Putnam
Lieutenant . . . . . Henry H. Sturgis.
Lieutenant-Colonel . . . Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
Brevet Captain . . . . . Edward B. Robins.
Brevet Major-General . . George N. Macy.
Brevet Captain . . . . . Charles A. Rand.
Medical Cadet . . . . . Norton Folsom
Brevet Brigadier General . Charles A. Whittier
Brevet Major . . . . . Herbert C. Mason
Captain . . . . . Henry W. T. Mali, Jr.

The tenth meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Somerset Club, Boston, on Thursday, October 21, 1875, at 6. P. M.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier General	Francis W. Palfrey.
Brevet Brigadier General	Charles A. Whittier.
Colonel	Norwood P. Hallowell.
Brevet Major	Herbert C. Mason.
Doctor	Norton Folsom
Captain	Henry W. T. Moali. Jr.
	Francis V. Balch. Esq.
Historian	John Codman Ropes. Esq.

The eleventh meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Somerset Club, Boston on Saturday, October 21, 1876, at 6. P. M.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier General	Francis W. Palfrey.
Captain	Henry W. T. Moali. Jr.
	Francis V. Balch. Esq.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.

Captain . . . . . C. Linzee Tilden.
Captain . . . . . Edward B. Robins
Brevet Major Herbert C. Mason.
Historian John Codman Ropes. Esq.

On January 5. 1877, General Palfrey called for an assessment of $5.00 on the members of the Association for expenses, mainly for flowers for the funerals of Brevet Major-General George N. Macy, and Brevet Major-General William Francis Bartlett.

The twelfth meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Somerset Club, Boston, on Monday, October 22, 1877,

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier General Francis W. Palfrey.
Brevet Brigadier General Charles L. Peirson
Colonel . . . . . Norwood P. Hallowell.
Brevet Colonel . . . . . Charles W. Folsom.
Francis V. Balch. Esq.
Captain . . . . . John C. Putnam.
Captain . . . . . Henry W. T. Mali. Jr.
Brevet Major . . . . . Herbert C. Mason.
Historian . . . . . John Codman Ropes. Esq.

The thirteenth meeting and subscription dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at Vossler's, 21 Hawley Street, Boston, on Monday October 21, 1878, at 6.30 P.M.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier-General	Francis W. Palfrey.
Brevet Major	Herbert C. Mason.
Doctor	Norton Folsom.
Captain	C. Linzee Tilden.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.
Colonel	Norwood P. Hallowell.
Captain	John C. Putnam.
Brevet Brigadier-General	Charles L. Peirson.
Lieutenant-Colonel . . .	Oliver Wendell Holmes. Jr.
Historian	John Codman Ropes. Esq.

The fourteenth meeting and dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at Vossler's, 21 Hawley Street, Boston, on Tuesday, October 21, 1879, at 6.30 P.M.

This dinner was given on the invitation of certain members of the Association.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier-General William Raymond Lee.
Brevet Brigadier General Francis W. Palfrey.
Brevet Brigadier-General Charles L. Peirson.
Brevet Major . . . . . Herbert C. Mason.
Captain . . . . . C. Linzee Tilden.
Francis V. Balch. Esq.
Brevet Colonel . . . . . Charles W. Folsom.
Doctor . . . . . Norton Folsom.
Brevet Brigadier-General Charles A. Whittier.
Lieutenant-Colonel . . . Oliver Wendell Holmes. Jr.
Historian . . . . . John Codman Ropes. Esq.

The fifteenth meeting and dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the house of General Charles A. Whittier, 230 Beacon Street, Boston, on Saturday, December 11, 1880, at 7 P. M.

This dinner was given by General Whittier.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier-General William Raymond Lee.
Brevet Brigadier-General Francis W. Palfrey.
Brevet Brigadier-General Charles L. Peirson.
Brevet Brigadier-General Charles A. Whittier.
Brevet Major . . . . . Herbert C. Mason.
Captain . . . . . C. Linzee Tilden.

over.

Captain	Gustave Shagnitzky
	Francis V. Balch, Esq.
Colonel	Norwood P. Hallowell
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom
Doctor	Norton Folsom
Lieutenant-Colonel	Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
Historian	John Codman Ropes, Esq.

The sixteenth meeting and dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the house of General Charles A. Whittier, 230 Beacon Street, Boston, on Saturday, December 10, 1881.

This dinner was given by General Whittier.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier General	Charles A. Whittier.
Colonel	Norwood P. Hallowell.
Captain	William F. Milton.
Lieutenant-Colonel	Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.
Captain	E. Linzee Tilden.
Brevet Brigadier-General	Caspar Crowninshield.
Brevet Major	Herbert C. Mason.
	Francis V. Balch, Esq.
Historian	John Codman Ropes, Esq.

Brevet Captain . . . . . Edward B. Robins.
Also Lieutenant-Colonel . . . . Henry Lee Jr. A.D.C.

There was no meeting in the year 1882, but two meetings were held in 1883.

The seventeenth meeting and dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the house of General Charles A. Whittier, 270 Beacon Street, Boston, on Saturday, February 3, 1883, at 7 P.M.

This dinner was given by General Whittier.

There were present: —

Brevet Brigadier-General Charles A. Whittier.
Brevet Brigadier-General Caspar Crowninshield.
Francis V. Balch. Esq.
Brevet Captain . . . . Edward B. Robins.
Colonel . . . . . Norwood P. Hallowell.
Brevet Major . . . . . Herbert C. Mason.
Captain . . . . . Henry W. T. Mali. Jr.
Historian . . . . . John Codman Ropes, Esq.
Brevet Brigadier-General Charles L. Peirson.
Lieutenant-Colonel . . . Oliver Wendell Holmes. Jr.
Brevet Brigadier General William Raymond Lee.
Brevet Colonel . . . . . Charles W. Folsom.

over

Captain . . . . . C. Linzee Tilden.
Captain . . . . . Gustave Margnitzky.

The eighteenth meeting and dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the house of General Charles A. Whittier, 270 Beacon Street, Boston, on Thursday, December 27, 1883, at 7 P. M.

This dinner was given by General Whittier.

There is no record of the officers present at this meeting.

The nineteenth meeting and dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the house of General Francis W. Palfrey, 255 Beacon Street, Boston, on Thursday, December 11, 1884, at 6.30 P. M.

This dinner was given by General Palfrey.

There were present: —

Brevet Brigadier General Francis W. Palfrey.
Colonel . . . . . Norwood P. Hallowell.
Lieutenant-Colonel . . . Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
Brevet Colonel . . . . . Charles W. Folsom.
Captain . . . . . Henry W. T. Mali, Jr.
Brevet Brigadier General Charles L. Peirson.

Brevet Captain . . . . . Edward B. Robins.
Captain . . . . . C. Linzee Tilden.
Doctor . . . . . Norton Folsom.
Historian . . . . . John Codman Ropes. Esq.

After nineteen meetings in the last nineteen years, with an attendance varying from eight to sixteen members of the Association, there was no meeting held in the year 1885.

The twentieth meeting and dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Somerset Club, Boston, on Tuesday, December 14, 1886, at 7, P. M.

This dinner was given by a few of the members.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier-General Charles A. Whittier.
Brevet Brigadier-General Caspar Crowninshield.
Brevet Brigadier General Charles L. Peirson.
Colonel . . . . . Norwood P. Hallowell.
Brevet Captain . . . . Edward B. Robins.
Francis V. Balch. Esq.
Captain . . . . . Gustave Magnitzky.
Brevet Colonel . . . . . Charles W. Folsom.
Historian . . . . . John Codman Ropes. Esq.

over

Captain . . . . . Henry W. T. Mali. Jr.

The twenty first meeting and dinner of the Association of Officers of the 20th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the Somerset Club, Boston, on Monday, December 12, 1887, at 7.15 P. M.

This dinner was given by Captain Henry W. T. Mali. Jr.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier General	Charles L. Peirson.
Captain	Henry W. T. Mali. Jr.
Brevet Brigadier-General	Charles A. Whittier.
Lieutenant-Colonel . . .	Oliver Wendell Holmes. Jr.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.
Captain	C. Linzee Tilden.
Brevet Captain	Edward B. Robins.
Brevet Brigadier General .	Francis W. Palfrey.
Captain	William F. Milton.
Captain	Gustave Magnitzky.
	Francis V. Balch. Esq.

The twenty second meeting of the Association of Officers of the Twentieth Regiment was held on Saturday, October 20th, 1888, at 1 P. M., at 13 Exchange St., Boston, Room 30, on notice to every member posted

in Boston October 15, 1888.

Present, Messrs. Palfrey, Peirson (for a moment), C. W. Folsom, and Ropes.

Mr. Palfrey made a somewhat full statement in relation to the present attitude of the Monument scheme.

He said that Mr. Holmes had resigned from the committee, and that Mr. Mason, his successor upon it, being dead, – he understood that the committee was now composed of himself and Mr. Ropes.

He stated what reasons there were to expect large additions to the Monument Fund, and to hope that the city would grant a location, and defray the expense of the foundation.

It was the sense of the meeting that it was the wish of the members – present and absent – that Messrs. Palfrey and Ropes should act as a committee, with full powers.

Mr. Palfrey and Mr. Ropes undertook so to act, and the meeting adjourned.

(Signed) Francis W. Palfrey.

The Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry met for their twenty-second dinner on the invitation of John C. Ropes, Esq. at his residence, No. 99 Mt. Vernon St., Boston, on Thursday, December 13, 1888, at 7 P. M.

There were present:—

Historian	John Codman Ropes, Esq.
Colonel	Norwood P. Hallowell.
Lieutenant-Colonel	Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
Brevet Captain	Edward B. Robins.
Doctor	Norton Folsom.
Captain	C. Linzee Tilden.
Brevet Brigadier General	Francis W. Palfrey.
Brevet Brigadier General	Charles L. Peirson.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.
Captain	Gustave Magnitzky.
	Francis V. Balch, Esq.

This was the twenty third meeting of the Association.

There was no meeting in the year 1889.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

When the proposal was made to build a new Public Library for the city of Boston, the Second Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Association (that had been for years in search of a suitable site for a memorial) applied to the Board of Trustees for a location in the new Library; understanding that the various halls, niches, panels and other suitable positions were likely to be filled and enriched in this manner, under proper artistic restrictions, that the glory of our City, both in peace and war, might be in some measure indicated as elements in the education of the people, and especially the young.

On the application of the "Second Regiment" the suggestion was made that it unite with the "Twentieth" in giving the two lions, already included in the scheme of ornamentation; thus helping in perfecting the building, as well as fulfilling our original intention. We both gladly adopted the offer, as both regiments were distinctively Boston organizations.

We have taken, we believe, one of the first steps in aiding to make this monumental building a record of historical events in which the citizens of Boston played an honorable part, and in which the dead, whom we commemorate, had their share.

We have thought that every veteran would note

with pleasure the early recognition, in a temple devoted to the arts of peace, of the valor and self sacrifice that have made that peace secure.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary
Assn. of the Offs. of the 20th Mass. Vol. Infy.

Pride's Crossing, Mass.
Sept. 12. 1889.

Edward B. Robins, Esq.

Dear Ned. –

I propose to sail for Europe shortly, to be gone 'till next summer. I send you enclosed list of members on the chance of its proving useful during my absence, e. g. for our annual dinner.

Please take care of it – It is valuable as showing just who our members are, &c.

Yours faithfully.
(signed) F. W. Palfrey.

Pride's Crossing, Mass., Sept. 16/89.

John C. Ropes, Esq.

Dear John,

I send you certain papers, which may or may not be of use during my absence.

The third page of this paper contains a memorandum of present investment of fund – I also owe the fund an uninvested balance of (I believe) $476,02.

My practice has been to collect coupons and dividends, allow the fund interest on monthly balances, and when I got together a thousand or more, to buy a bond.

If there should be occasion to sell shares or registered bonds in my absence, all you can do is to do what I should do if personally present. I have only my word to offer in support of the allegation that I am Treasurer of the Twentieth Regt. Monument Fund. There are no records - There never was a vote of anybody, so far as I remember, appointing me Treasurer of that Fund or indeed, constituting that Fund - I have simply received contributions, invested them and their increment, and sometimes registered bonds and taken certificates for shares nomine F. W. P. Treasurer.

Yours always -

[signed] F. W. Palfrey.

F. Bartlett can always get at the bonds and certificates in my absence.

$600,	B. & M. in N. Bond -	F. W. P. Treas.
1000,	"	Bearer
1000,	So. Kansas & Western -	"
1300,	K. C. St. Jo. & C. B.	"
1000,	Atch. Sinking Fund 5%	"
1000,	C. B. & Q. Iowa Div. 4%	"
1000,	" Debenture 5%	F. W. P. Treas.
1000,	K. C. Ft. Scott & Memphis 6%	

27 sh.	Atchison	F. W. P. Treas.
8 "	Cal. & Hecla	" "
3 "	C. B. & Q.	" "

Attest Edward B. Robins
Secretary

Brevet Brigadier-General Francis W. Palfrey, who had formed the Association of Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, and who had done almost all the work in connection with it, died in Cannes, France, on December 6th 1889.

The twenty fourth
A meeting of the Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Infantry was held at NO. 50 State St., Boston, Mass., upon Friday, February 28th, 1890, in response to the following call:-

"Boston, February 19th, 1890.

Dear Sir:-

"A meeting of the Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Infantry will be held at the office of John C. Ropes, Esq., NO. 50 State St., Boston, on Friday, the 28th of February, at 3 P. M., for the purpose of electing a Treasurer of the fund in place of Gen. Francis W. Palfrey, deceased, and for the consideration of a proposed monument to our deceased comrades, and of a proposed location for the same, and for the transaction of any other business that may come before it."

(signed)

Yours very truly,

Edward B. Robins.

Acting Secretary."

There were present John C. Ropes, Esq., Gen. Charles L. Peirson, Capt. C. L. Tilden, Dr. Charles F. Crehore, Col. Charles W. Folsom, Col. N. P. Hallowell, and Capt. Edward B. Robins.

The meeting was organized by the election of Gen. Charles L. Peirson as chairman, and Capt. Edward B. Robins as Secretary.

The call for the meeting was then read.

Letters of regret were then read from Capt. H. W. T. Mali, and Dr. John G. Perry.

On motion of Capt. C. L. Tilden, John C. Ropes, Esq., was unanimously elected Treasurer of the fund, in place of Gen. Francis W. Palfrey, deceased.

Mr. Ropes then presented the following report of the fund as received from Gen. John C. Palfrey, executor of Gen. Francis W. Palfrey.

Details of fund:-

$1000.	Bond-Kansas City, St. J. & Council Bluffs, R.R.	:1907:
	NO.923--mtge.7's--January & July.	
$100.	" " 5335 "	
$100.	" " 5336 "	
$100.	" " 5337 "	
$1000.	" -Burlington & M.R.R.R. in Nebraska.	:1918:
	NO.4340: 6's January & July: Exempt:	
$600.	" NO.511 " " " " "	
$1000.	" -C.B.&Q.R.R. Debenture.:1913:	
	NO.3321: 5's. May & November.	
$1000.	" -C.B.&Q.R.R. Iowa Mtge.:1919:	
	NO.12525: 4's: April & October.	
$1000.	" K.C., Fort Scott & Memphis R.R.-1928	
	NO.6788--Mtge. 6's May & November	
$1000.	" Southern Kansas & Western R.R.	
	NO.1561(to be exchanged C.L.Peirson)	
$1000.	" Atchison, T. & Santa Fe R.R.	
	NO.2444 Do.	
8 shares	Calumet & Hecla Mining Co.	
27 shares	Atchison, Topeka, Santa Fe R.R.Co.	
3 shares	C.B. & Quincy R.R.Co.,	
	Cash	$625.56.

Mr. Ropes then stated that S. A. B. Abbott, Esq., Chairman of the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, had informed him that two ~~bronze~~ lions, in Sienna marble made by St. Gaudens, were to be placed on the stair-way of the new Public Library in Copley Square, and had suggested that the Associations of the 2nd Massachusetts Infantry and the 20th Massachusetts Infantry, regiments that were officered by many mutual friends, and be-

tween which there had always been a most friendly interest, should purchase the two lions and present them to the Public Library in memory of their comrades who were killed in the war. He stated that the lions would cost from $5000. to $6000. apiece, and that the 2nd Massachusetts Association had about enough money subscribed to pay for one of them:--and that we had about twice as much as was necessary to pay for the other.

A lengthy discussion followed of various suggestions in connection with the monument, and the use that might be made of the surplus. It was suggested that, as the regiment was a State regiment, the proper location would be the State House, rather than a city building:-but it was generally agreed among the officers that the regiment was raised in Boston, and that no large number of men, with the exception of the Nantucket contingent, came from any place outside of Boston. It was suggested that, as St. Gaudens was making a monument to Col. Robert G. Shaw to be placed on the front of the State House, it might be well for us to secure the companion place for a handsomer piece of work than one of these lions, sufficient to use up our entire fund,-to be made by the same artist, who would undoubtedly be pleased to design something much handsomer than this lion, which would be in keeping with the monument to Col. Shaw, and would prevent the possibility of an inferior monument being placed in this corresponding niche at some future time.

Mr. Ropes expressed his opinion that the monument to Col. Shaw was not to the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, but to a great event in the history of the colored race, which marked the time when they were first put upon a par with the white people, and that it would not be appropriate to have a regimental momument in a corresponding place. Some consideration was also given to our original idea of securing a location in one of the public paths or avenues; but the recollection of the inartistic monument erected to Col. Cass, and the probability that other regiments would be allowed to put up inferior monuments in other places, satisfied all that the Public Library would be the most desirable location that had been suggested, --as there would be here no chance for any other monument, except these two lions, both of which would now be taken by friendly regiments.

This was later replaced by a handsome statue E.B. Robins

The discussion then turned upon the use of the surplus. Capt. Mali's suggestion of a fund for free beds in some military hospital was considered, but it was thought that there were not enough cases of need for that use of the fund. It was then suggested that it might be used for the purchase of military books, --to be placed in the Public Library, --and to be known as the "20th Massachusetts Fund". This seemed to please all the members.

There was much discussion as to what names should be placed upon this monument, --whether we should put only the names of the officers who died in battle (or within a few days in consequence of their wounds), or only those who had died before the close of the war; or

whether we should include those who had suffered for years, though perhaps they had died only recently (as Gen. Palfrey), yet certainly had died, in consequence of their wounds although indirectly; and whether it would be possible in any way to commemorate the names of the enlisted men, or only their number.

It seemed finally to be the most satisfactory to the meeting that only the names of the Officers who were killed, or died immediately of their wounds, should be placed on the monument, --mentioning them in order of rank, with the name of the battle in which they received their wounds, -and also, if possible, the number of enlisted men killed or mortally wounded. It was also suggested that on another face of the monument might be engraved a full list of the battles in which the regiment had taken part. As our fund would enable us to add much in the way of bronze tablets, or similar extra work to the monument, and yet we should not wish to have our monument different from that of the 2nd Massachusetts, it was decided that the Treasurer should try to get the members of the 2nd Massachusetts to raise more money, and the decision of the actual wording and arrangement of our inscription was left to a subsequent meeting of the Association.

It was also proposed that perhaps we could have an entire alcove for the books of the '20th Massachusetts Fund', and that we could name the shelves for the different officers, and perhaps put up on each shelf a separate memorial tablet. It was agreed that a handsome book

should be placed in this alcove, in which should be engrossed as full a record as possible of every officer and man of the regiment.

It was finally voted :-"that the Treasurer of the 20th Massachusetts Association be authorized to co-operate with the 2 nd Massachusetts Association in the purchase of two lions, by St. Gaudens, --to be presented to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, as a memorial of the services of these regiments in the War of the Rebellion, -and that the Treasurer be authorized, if possible, to procure permission to put up such memorial tablets as may hereafter be decided upon."

Capt. Edward B. Robins was then elected Secretary of the Association.

The meeting then adjourned.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

The twenty-fifth

A meeting of the Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Infantry was held at NO.50 State St.,Boston,Mass.,on Thursday,June 26th,1890,-in response to the following call:-

Dear Sir:-

"The Association of Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Regiment will meet at the office of John C. Ropes,Esq., 50 State St.,Boston,on Thursday,(June 26th,)at 3 P. M.,"

Signed

Yours very truly,

Edward B. Robins,Sect."

There were present John C. Ropes,Esq.,Col.Charles W. Folsom, Capt. C. L. Tilden,and Capt. Edward B. Robins.

The meeting was called to order by the Secretary,and Col. Charles W. Folsom was unanimously elected chairman.

The call for the meeting was then read.

The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported that Mr. St.Gaudens wished a payment on account of the lions,and he desired authority to sell some of the securities belonging to the fund. It was therefore voted:-

"That John C. Ropes,the Treasurer of the Twentieth Regiment Monument Fund,be,and he is hereby, authorized to sell at any time any or all of the stocks,bonds,or other securities standing in his name as such Treasurer,or in the name of said Fund,at public or private sale at his discretion,and to execute, acknowledge,and deliver such

(2)

assignments,transfers,or other instruments as may be necessary for the carrying out of said powers of sale."

Voted:-

"That said John C. Ropes,the Treasurer of the Twentieth Regiment Monument Fund,be authorized and empowered to advance from time to time as he may see fit,to the chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Public Library,or to Mr. Charles F. McKim,the Architect,such sums as may in his judgment be required,not,however,to exceed in all the sum of five thousand(5000)dollars."

The meeting then adjourned.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

The Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry met for their twenty-third dinner on Thursday, December 11th, 1890, at 7 P.M. with the invitation of John C. Ropes, Esq., at his house, 99 Mt. Vernon St., Boston, Mass.

There were present,-

John C. Ropes, Esq., Col. O. W. Holmes, Lieut. A. G. Sedgwick, Dr. Norton Folsom, Capt. G. Magnitzky, Francis V. Balch, Esq., Col. N. P. Hallowell, Gen. Charles L. Peirson, Gen. Caspar Crowninshield, Gen. C. A. Whittier, Col. C. W. Folsom, Capt. H. W. T. Mali, and Capt. Edward B. Robins.

After dinner the twenty-sixth meeting of the Association was held, with Gen. C. L. Peirson in the chair.

The records of the last two meetings were read by the Secretary.

There was much discussion over the names which should be placed upon the monument. Col. Hallowell objected to omitting such names as Bartlett, Palfrey, and Mason. Col. Holmes thought that certain names had been made more prominent than they were at the time of the war by subsequent events,-and that, if we allowed that to influence us in putting on names of officers who were seriously wounded during the war, but were not killed,-we should be in danger of erecting a monument to ourselves. Mr. Ropes thought that a moral lesson such as this monument would suggest, could not be drawn from the deaths of officers twenty-five years after the close of the war.

Capt. Mali made the following motion:-

"That only the names of such officers should be put upon

the monument as were killed in action, or died from wounds so serious that they never got off their backs after receiving them."

Col. Hallowell moved as an amendment to Capt. Mali's motion that "no names whatever should be put upon the monument". This amendment was lost by a vote of three in the affirmative, and eight in the negative. Capt. Mali's motion was then adopted.

The list of officers was then read from the report of the Adjutant-General of Massachusetts, and the following names were unanimously voted as proper to be put upon the monument:--

Colonel Paul. J. Revere,

Lieutenant Colonel Ferdinand Dreher,

Major Henry L. Abbott,

Major Henry L. Patten,

Assistant Surgeon Edward H. R. Revere,

Captain Alois Babo,

Captain Charles F. Cabot,

Captain Thomas M. McKay,

Lieutenant James J. Lowell,

Lieutenant Henry Ropes,

Lieutenant Lansing E. Hibbard,

Lieutenant Henry M. Bond,

Lieutenant Edward Sturgis,

Lieutenant Reinhold Wesselhoeft,

Lieutenant William L. Putnam,

Lieutenant Robert S. Beckwith,

Lieutenant Leander F. Alley,

Lieutenant Sumner Paine.

The name of Lieutenant Samuel G. Gilbreth of the 1st. Massachusetts Sharp Shooters then came before the meeting. It was voted that his name should be included, if the Secretary should find upon investigation that at that time the Sharp Shooters were a part of the 20th Massachusetts Regiment.

Colonel Hallowell desired to record his vote in favor of including the following names:-

Generl Francis W. Palfrey,

Captain John C. Putnam,

General William F. Bartlett,

Major Herbert C. Mason

Colonel Hallowell maintained that those four officers received grievous wounds from which, after years of continuous suffering, they as certainly died as did their more fortunate brothers who were more immediately killed; that their names are historically identified with the record of the 20th Regiment;

and that the English language is sufficiently rich to furnish an epitaph which will include such names without giving offence to any one.

Upon motion duly seconded Col. Hallowell alone voted in favor of the four names specified, and at his request his vote is so recorded.

The meeting then adjourned.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

The Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry met for ~~the annual~~ this twenty-fourth dinner on Friday, November 20, 1891, at 7 P.M., at the Somerset Club, Beacon St., Boston, on invitation of Captain H.W.T.Mali.

There were present,-

Capt.H.W.T.Mali,	Gen.Charles A.Whittier,
Capt.G.Magnitzky,	Col.O.W.Holmes,
Capt.Edward B.Robins,	~~Lieut~~ Capt.C.L.Tilden,
John C.Ropes Esq.,	Dr.Norton Folsom,
Gen.Caspar Crowninshield,	Francis V.Balch Esq.,
Gen.Charles L.Peirson,	Col.Charles W.Folsom

After dinner the twenty-seventh meeting of the Association was held, with Gen. C.L.Peirson in the chair.

The records of the last meeting were read by the Secretary.

The subject of our monument was then brought up.

Gen.Peirson thought that, the simpler the inscriptions, the better it would be. He suggested that we should omit the names entirely,-that we inscribe on one face the battles only, and on the other face "To the City of Boston from the Survivors and Friends of the 20th Massachusetts."

Mr.Ropes stated that the Lions would cost about $4700.00 apiece, and that our fund was large enough to enable us to present to the City, in addition to the Lion, a considerable sum for a fund for tablets, an alcove etc.

(2)

Gen. Whittier then moved that, -" On one face of the Monument should be inscribed 20th Massachusetts,-on a second face, the battles,-on a third face, the number of enlisted men killed,-on a fourth face, the names of officers killed, which should be the list accepted at the last meeting." This was carried unanimously.

The Secretary reported on the name of Lieutenant Samuel G. Gilbreth of the 1st Massachusetts Sharp Shooters, killed in front of Petersburg.

Mr. Ropes moved that:-" Lieut. Gilbreth's name be not included in the list of officers of the 20th Massachusetts." Carried.

Mr. Ropes then moved that:-" Assistant Surgeon Charles E. Inches be invited to join this Association." Carried.

The meeting then adjourned.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

The twenty-eighth meeting of the Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at No. 50 State St., Boston, Mass., on Friday, February 19, 1892, in response to the following call:-

"Boston, Mass., 16th Feb'y./92

Dear Sir:-

A meeting of the Association of Officers of the 20th Massachusetts will be held at the office of John C. Ropes Esq. 50 State St., Boston, on Friday, February 19th, at 3 P. M. to settle upon the inscriptions for our monument.

(signed) Yours truly,

Edward B. Robins

Secretary"

There were present,-

Col. Charles W. Folsom, John C. Ropes Esq.,

Francis V. Balch Esq., Capt. Edward B. Robins.

The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary then read the following copy of the vote of acknowledgment of the Trustees of the Public Library:-

"Public Library of the City of Boston

In Board of Trustees

Friday, February 12,1892

Voted, that the acknowledgments of the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston be conveyed to Mr. John C. Ropes, to the Association of the Officers of the Twentieth Regiment Massa-

(2)

chusetts Volunteers and to Mrs. Louisa C. Palfrey, widow of its distinguished and lamented commander, for the gift of books from the library of General Palfrey, the same to be the nucleus of a Library established as a memorial of this gallant regiment, the charge of which is accepted as a sacred trust by the Trustees.

A true copy of the record.

Attest:

(signed) Louis F. Gray, Clerk"

The Treasurer stated that he had sent $100.00 from the funds of the Association to Col. John B. Batchelder, to supply the deficiency in the appropriation by the Legislature of Massachusetts for the bronze tablet marking the position of the regiment at the copse of trees at the Battle of Gettysburg. This subscription was cordially approved.

The matter of the inscriptions on the Lion was then brought up. The votes of the last two meetings of the Association were read, viz:- "that on one face should be inscribed the names of the officers killed, according to the list, in the order of their rank and with the names of the battles in which they were killed:-on a second face, the number of men killed:-on a third face, the list of battles;-and on the fourth face, 20th Massachusetts." It was understood by this meeting that the last was a general direction to cover a suitable inscription of presentation by the regiment &c.

(3)

Mr. Ropes then read the inscriptions that had been agreed upon (mutatis mutandis)in conference by the committees of the two regiments, Captains Fox and Bangs of the 2nd, and Gen. Peirson and himself of the 20th.

"The following was agreed to on December 18", 1891, by Messrs Fox & Bangs, of the 2nd, and Messrs. Peirson & Ropes , of the 20th.

This Lion

given to the City of Boston

in honor of the

(20th?) Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry

and in remembrance of the

Officers and Men

who fell in its ranks.

The above to be inscribed on the long face on the upper ? side.

The battles to be inscribed on the reverse long face.

The square face in front to contain a Bronze Shield containing this, viz:

Twentieth Massachusetts Infantry

1861 - 1865

20th Battles:-

1. Ball's Bluff	6. Fredericksburg	11. Spottsylvania
2. Fair Oaks	7. Marye's Heights	12. Cold Harbor
3. Glendale	8. Gettysburg	13. Petersburg
4. Malvern Hill	9. Bristoe Station	14. Appomattox Court House
5. Antietam	10. The Wilderness	

The different points were very thoroughly discussed, but, as so few members were present, and as it was somewhat uncertain how many available faces there were to the monument, what were their dimensions and which should be considered the prominent face, it was voted that:- "The Secretary be authorized to have made plans or models, drawn to scale, showing plainly the monument, its faces, location and various features, to be submitted to a future meeting of the Association, and if possible to have copies sent to the members for their consideration before the meeting."

Mr. Ropes in presenting the list of battles, asked the opinion of the meeting on the proper name for the second battle of Fredericksburg, because the regiment was not engaged at Chancellorsville, but at the city of Fredericksburg. It was decided that "Marye's Heights" was the proper designation.

The Secretary desired the opinion of the meeting on the proper title for the regiments, for which one of the Trustees of the Library had asked. It was decided that "(2nd or) 20th Massachusetts

Volunteer Infantry" was the proper title:-also that the number of the regiment should generally be expressed in figures, as it was on the caps of the men, rather than in letters.

The meeting then adjourned.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

The Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry met for their twenty fifth ~~the annual~~ dinner at 99 Mt. Vernon St., Boston, on Wednesday evening, February 22nd, 1893, ~~on~~ at the invitation of John C. Ropes Esq.

There were present:-

John C. Ropes Esq.	Gen. Charles L. Peirson
Gen. Charles A. Whittier	Francis V. Balch Esq.
Col. O. W. Holmes Jr.	Capt. G. Magnitsky
Gen. Caspar Crowninshield	Dr. Charles E. Inches
Capt. Edward B. Robins	Col. Charles W. Folsom.

After dinner the twenty-ninth meeting of the Association was held with Gen. Charles L. Peirson in thechair.

The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary showed plans of the new Public Library, which gave the arrangement of the halls and stair-case, showing the position of the lions. He stated that Mr. St. Gaudens and Mr. McKim had not yet finally decided upon the height of the pedestals, which might be reduced from what it was at present, and that consequently the panels on the sides had not yet been finally determined upon. Consequently the Secretary could not send out to the officers the plans that had been voted at the last meeting, and the inscriptions already voted might be altered somewhat.

The Secretary stated that the entire upper story of the new Library would be devoted to Special Libraries, of thich the Architect-

ural and the two other largest libraries would have separate rooms; but almost three entire sides of the square on that floor would be a continuous room for smaller special libraries. In this room tables would be arranged for reading, running across the room near the windows that open on the inner court-yard, while the alcoves for the special libraries would be between these tables and the outer solid walls next the street. Here would be an excellent place for our proposed "20th Massachusetts Alcove" for a Military Library.

Considerable discussion then ensued on the list of battles adopted at the last meeting. It was finally voted to add to the list "Yorktown." It was voted not to add "Savage's Station" or "Chantilly." This would make the list of battles as follows:-

20th Battles:-

1. Ball's Bluff	6. Antietam	11. The Wilderness
2. Yorktown	7. Fredericksburg	12. Spottsylvania
3. Fair Oaks	8. Marye's Heights	13. Cold Harbor
4. Glendale	9. Gettysburg	14. Petersburg
5. Malvern Hill	10. Bristoe Station	15. Appomattox Court House

A letter from Col. Folsom to Mr. Ropes was then read, which suggested a re-arrangement of the inscription adopted by the committees of the 2nd and 20th regiments. It proposed to change "This Lion" to "This Monument," and to transpose the first two lines of the inscription to the end. A new inscription proposed by Mr. Ropes in accordance with this suggestion was then offered.

By a vote of seven to three the word "Monument" was selected instesd of "Memorial." By a unanimous vote the words "erected and" were omitted. The inscription, as finally adopted was:-

IN HONOR

OF THE

20TH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

AND IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE

OFFICERS AND MEN WHO FELL IN ITS RANKS

THIS MONUMENT

HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE

CITY OF BOSTON

It was again voted that the names of the officers, who fell in battle or died of their wounds, should be placed upon this monument.

The meeting then adjourned.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

The Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry met for their twenty sixth dinner on the invitation of Captain William F. Milton, at the Union Club Park Street, Boston, on Monday, October 23, 1893. at 7 P. M.

There were present:—

Captain	William F. Milton.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.
Captain	Gustave Magnitzky.
Assistant Surgeon . . .	Charles E. Inches.
Brevet Captain	Edward B. Robins.
	Francis V. Balch. Esq.
Brevet Brigadier General	Charles L. Peirson.
Lieutenant-Colonel	Oliver Wendell Holmes. Jr.
Historian	John Codman Ropes. Esq.

also

Captain Richard S. Milton. (9th Mass. Battery.)

There was no regular meeting of the Association this evening.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

From the

Trustees of the Public Library
of the City of Boston.

In Board of Trustees,
Tuesday, February 19, 1895.

"Voted, that the thanks of the City
of Boston be and hereby are given to the
"Associations of the Officers of the Second and
"of the Twentieth Regiments of Massachusetts
"Volunteer Infantry for the gift of two lions
"in Siena marble, now placed in the
staircase-hall of the new Public Library
"building, in commemoration of the officers
"and men of the Second and Twentieth
"Regiments of Massachusetts Volunteer
"Infantry who fell in the War of the
"Rebellion."

A true copy of the record.
Attest:
Louis J. Gray
Clerk.

The thirtieth meeting of the Association of Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was called for Friday, January 17, 1896, at 4 P.M. at the office of John C. Ropes. Esq. 50 State Street, Boston, to decide upon the disposition of the balance of the Monument Fund, full payment for the Lion having now been made.

As Mr. Ropes and Captain Robins were the only members present, no formal business was transacted.

The Treasurer presented his report, hereto annexed, showing the total expenditure for the Lion &c. was $5,450.: and the balance on hand consisted of cash $929.32 and securities of a par value of $9.240.11, or present market value of $9,724.00, making a total value in the treasury of $10,653.32 market value.

After informal discussion and arrangements for an adjourned meeting at such a date as to allow time to send notices, with details of figures, plans for disposition of the balance, and blank proxies, the meeting adjourned.

JOHN C. ROPES, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TWENTIETH REGIMENT MONUMENT FUND FROM FEBRUARY 18th, 1890 to JANUARY 15th, 1896.

RECEIPTS

1890.			
Feb'y 18,	To Cash from General John C.Palfrey,Executor of the Will of General Francis W.Palfrey late Treasurer of the fund,		625.56
March 1,	Securities received from above, viz:-		
	$1,300 K.City,St.Jos.& C.Bluffs R.R. 7s 1907	1,300.	
	1,600 Bur.& Miss.R.R.in Neb.exempt 6s 1918	1,600.	
	1,000 Chi.Bur.& Q.R.R.Iowa Mtg.4s 1919	1,000.	
	1,000 Chi.Bur.& Q.R.R.deb.5s.1913	1,000.	
	1,000 K.City,Ft.S.& Mem.R.R.Mtg 6s 1928	1,000.	
	1,000 So.Kansas & West'n R.R.7s (under reorganization)	1,000.	
	1,000 Atch.Top.& S.Fe R.R.5s (under reorganization)	1,000.00	
	Calumet & Hecla Mng.Co. 8 shs.@ 250	2,000.	
	Atch.Top.& S.Fe R.R. 27 shs. " 33	891.	
	Chi.Bur.& Q.R.R. 3 " " 103	309.	11,100.00
May 2,	Gain by sale $1,150 Atch.Income 5 o/o bonds		92.88
19,	" " " 3 Rights Chi.Bur.& Q.R.R.		3.60
June 28,	" " " 27 shares Atch.Top.& S.Fe R.R.		340.88
30,	" " " $1,000 Chi.Bur.& Q.R.R.deb.5s		21.66
Nov'r 1,	Estate of Francis W.Palfrey,Suffolk Sav.Bank book		218.07
Dec'r 31,	Income in full to date		611.48
1891			
Apl. 14,	Gain by sale $600 Bur.& Miss.R.R.R.6s		81.75
Dec'r 31	Income for the year		603.22
1892			
Mch. 16,	Gain by sale $300 K.City,St.Jos.& C.Bluffs R.R.7s		60.00
Dec'r 31,	Income for the year		565.04
1893,			
Dec'r 31,	Income for the year		550.00
1894.			
Dec'r 31	Income for the year		534.25
1895,			
Dec'r 31,	Income for the year		580.00
1896.			
Jan'y 15	Income Dec.31/95 to date		65.00
			$16,053.39

- E X P E N S E S -

1890.		
Mch. 14,	By loss on $2,000 Atch.bonds by surrender and exchange under reorganization plan	58.00
May 2,	broker's comm's on sale $1,150 Atchison Incomes	2.88
7	" " purchase 10 shs.Am.Waltham Watch Co.	2.50
June 28,	" " sale 27 shs.Atchison R.R.	6.75
30,	" " and express chgs sale $1,000 C.,B.& Q.R.R. 5s	2.85
1891.		
Apl. 14,	" " sale $600 Bur.& Miss.R.R.R. in Neb. 6s	1.50
Oct. 23,	John B.Bachelder,Gettysburg tablet	100.00
20,	accrued int.on $1,000 Chi.Bur.& Q.R.R.4s May 1 to date	18.89
	broker's comm's on $1,000 bond C.,B.& Q.R.R. purchased	1.25
Nov. 16,	Robert C.Fisher & Co. 1/2 cost of St.Gaudens lions for the Boston Pub.Library,	4,700.00
1892.		
Feb'y 5,	W.E.Doyle wreath placed on Col.W.R.Lee's coffin	12.00
Mch. 16	Loss by sale $1,000 C.,B.& Q.R.R. 4s	50.00
June 15,	Premium on $500 Chi.Bur.& Nor.R.R.5s	20.00
"	accrued int.on $500 C.,B.& Nor.R.R.5s Apl.1 to date	5.21
1893.		
Mch. 25,	premium on $200 Atch.& Neb.R.R. 7s	42.00
"	accrued int. on above to datefr.Mch.1,	0.97
Dec. 21,	premium on $500 K.City,Ft.S.& Gulf R.R.7s	20.00
"	accrued int.on same Dec.1 to date	1.95
"	" " " $100 C.,B.& Q.R.R.4s Aug.1 to date	1.56
1895.		
Jan. 28,	" " " $400 C.,B.& Q.R.R.4s	7.87
	broker's comm's on purchase of above	1.00
Feb. 28,	John Williams Jr.,pedestals, half cost of bronze lettering, &c.	750.00
May 1,	Miss Kidder, copy of letter	0.75
31,	broker's comm's on sale 3 shs.C.,B.& Q.R.R.	0.37
"	Loss on sale 3 shs.C.,B.& Q.R.R.	61.65
July 1,	Miss Kidder copying papers	10.00
Sept. 9,	broker's comm's and express chgs on sale $1,000 Atch.4 o/o bond	1.39
"	loss on sale $1,000 Atch.4 o/o bond	2.62
1896.		
Jan. 15,	balance of fund on hand	10,169.43
		$16,053.39

ASSETS

January 15, 1896.

			Present value.
$1,000	K.City,St.Jos.& C.Bluffs R.R.7s 1907	1,000.	1,200.00
1,000	Bur.& Miss.R.R.R. in Neb.6s exempt 1918	1,000.	1,150.00
500	Chi.Bur.& Q.R.R. 4s 1922	474.	470.00
200	Atchison & Nebraska R.R.7s 1908	200.	244.00
500	Chi.Bur.& Nor.R.R.1st Mtg.5s 1926	500.	510.00
1,000	K.City,Ft.S.& Mem.R.R.6s 1928	1,000.	900.00
1,000	Chi.Bur.& Q.R.R.Neb.Ex.4s S.F. 1927	856.11	880.00
500	K.City,Ft.S.& Gulf R.R.7s 1908	500.	560.00
Calumet & Hecla Mng. Co. 8 shs. @ 250		2,000.	2,360.00
American Waltham Watch Co. 10 shs. @ 171		1,710.	1,450.00
Suffolk Savings Bank book No.83,930		6.39	6.39
Uninvested Cash on hand		922.93	922.93
		$10,169.43	$10,653.32

Boston, January 15, 1896.

Correct: E. & O. E.:

John C. Ropes, Treasurer.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

An adjourned meeting of the Association of Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Infantry will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 1896, at 4 P.M. at the office of John C. Ropes, Esq. 50 State Street, Boston, to decide upon the final disposition of the balance of the Monument Fund, full payment for the Lion having now been made.

As you probably know, the grand staircase of the new Public Library in Boston has on each side a magnificent Lion in Sienna marble, designed by St. Gaudens. These two Lions were presented by the survivors and friends of the 20th Massachusetts Infantry and the 2nd Massachusetts Infantry. The inscriptions in raised bronze letters on ~~one~~ our Lion are as follows:-

On the long side:-

In honor
of the
Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry
and in remembrance of the
Officers and Men who fell in its ranks
this monument has been given to the City of Boston

On the front upper panel:-

Ball's Bluff	Fair Oaks	Glendale
Malvern Hill	Antietam	Fredericksburg
Marye's Heights	Gettysburg	Bristoe Station
The Wilderness	Spottsylvania	Cold Harbor
Petersburg	Appomattox Court House	

On the front lower panel:-

Twentieth

Massachusetts

Infantry

1861-1865

Enclosed in a laurel wreath.

The Treasurer reports that he has paid $5450.00 for the 20th Lion in the Public Library, $100.00, in addition to the State appropriation, for the 20th tablet at Gettysburg, and $12.00 for a wreath for Colonel Lee's coffin. The balance on hand in cash and securities at market value is $10,653.32.

No formal vote has ever been taken as to the disposition of this surplus, which is much larger than we had ever expected it to be. The matter was informally discussed at the meeting of February 28, 1890, and then the only proposition that seemed to interest the meeting was to establish

a fund for a military library. It was proposed to present our surplus to the Trustees of the Public Library to establish the "20th Mass. Fund", and to ask them to reserve an alcove for a military library to be provided by this fund, and to name the shelves for the different officers of the regiment, with perhaps a separate memorial tablet on each shelf. A handsome book was also to be provided, with as full a record as possible of every officer and man of the regiment.

Since that meeting the Military Historical Society of Massachusetts, of which a large number of our officers are members, has been incorporated and has settled in permanent quarters in the new Armory of the Cadets in Boston. It has been suggested that the library of this Society would be a more suitable place for books provided by the "20th Mass. Fund" and for any flags, relics, &c., of the regiment than the Public Library. This Society was established for the study of military history and is now in its twenty-first year. It has received from Mr. Ropes his entire military library and collections, to which it is constantly making additions. Its membership and library are open to any persons interested in military study. It selected its permanent location in the new Cadet Armory, where it is expected that the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States will also

have headquarters with its splendid collection of military books and relics, with the idea that here will be centred the military interest of the coming generations in Boston. It has meetings every month in the winter, with lectures on military subjects at each meeting. It has published three volumes on the late Civil War and has seven more volumes in preparation.

As our members are so scattered that it is impossible for all to attend a meeting, I enclose proxies so that all members may vote on this subject. Please express your opinions on the use of the surplus as a "20th Mass. Fund" for a military library; and whether you would prefer to have the books placed in the Public Library of the City of Boston, or the Military Historical Society of Massachusetts;- or make any suggestions that you may desire for its use.

Edward B. Robins

Secretary.

The thirty-first meeting of the Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held at the office of John C. Ropes, Esq., 50 State Street, Boston, on Wednesday, March 11, 1896, Brevet Brigadier General Charles L. Peirson in the chair.

There were present:—

Brevet Brigadier General	Charles L. Peirson
Historian	John Codman Ropes, Esq.
Brevet Colonel	Charles W. Folsom.
Doctor	Norton Folsom.
Captain	Edward B. Robins.

The call for this meeting was then read.

The records of the last meeting were approved.

The Secretary stated that the suggestion of placing the books to be purchased by the surplus of our Monument Fund in the library of the Military Historical Society of Massachusetts, instead of in the Public Library, had been made by him, because he felt that they would do more real good in the former place than in the latter.

Mr. Ropes stated that he felt that this question was now settled in his own mind in favor of the Public Library, because that was a public library, whereas the library of the

Military Historical Society of Massachusetts was a private library, although he agreed that the books would probably be seen and used more in the latter place.

The meeting seemed to agree with Mr. Ropes' view, although no formal vote was taken.

Letters were then read from Col. Holmes, Col. Folsom, Gen. Peirson, Capt. Mali, Lieut. Sedgwick, Lieut. Messer, and Capt. Spencer. Col. Holmes wrote that in his opinion we had no right to use the surplus of the Fund for any purpose, not even an additional monument, much less a library, without consultation with the donors or their heirs, – and that he felt that we should offer to return this surplus to the original subscribers or their heirs.

A full and free discussion then followed on these letters, and on the probable location that would be given us in the Public Library, – about the advisability and opportunity of naming shelves for the officers, – about room for a tablet with names of officers and perhaps of some of the enlisted men, about space for relics, flags, and portraits, – about the class of books that we should present, – and about retaining the principal in our own hands and presenting books to the Library from time to time, or turning over the Fund to the Trustees.

Colonel Folsom said that he had always looked forward to having this Monument so grand, so noble that it should be a lesson to the younger generation. He suggested that this library should not be limited to military books on the late war, but should include lives of heroes and any such books as would have this influence.

It was then suggested that probably the entire principal of the subscription had been used on the Lion and probably some of the increment. Nobody knew the exact figures, though Col. Folsom thought that the principal was probably six or seven thousand dollars.

On motion of Col. Folsom a committee consisting of Gen. Peirson, Mr. Ropes and Captain Robins, was appointed to ascertain what could be done in the Public Library.

On motion of Col. Folsom it was then voted:-

"The Association, thinking it best to have the balance of the Fund placed in the hands of a public rather than of a private society, propose, with the approval of the members of the Association, and as far as desirable that of the donors now living—, to secure an alcove or room in the Public

Library, in which such books, pictures, &c. as we may present shall be preserved, together with a handsome memorial tablet engrossing the names of such officers as lost their lives in the war of the Rebellion.

After such expenditure and the necessary expenses of fitting up the room as a library, the balance be given to the Public Library to buy books, covering as far as possible the war of the Rebellion.

The details of this scheme to be further considered after the committee shall have reported on their negotiations with the authorities of the Public Library."

The meeting then adjourned.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

(COPY)

Boston, Mch. 11, 1896.

To Mr. John C. Ropes, Esq.,

Treasurer &c.

Dear John,

Enclosed are the only reports on the fund by Gen. Palfrey. The last one - 1873 - includes all the subscriptions, so that you need not look at the others, except for details of investment, interest &c. There is quite a gap between 1873 and 1890, when you took the fund. Perhaps there were other subscriptions, but I incline to think that this $3,416.92 comprises about all of the principal of our fund. Please return this paper, as I propose to have the list of members present at the dinner copied into our book. Can you supply the missing data for a complete ~~manuscript~~ Treasurer's Report from the beginning?

Yours very truly,

Edward B. Robins.

THE TWENTIETH REGIMENT MONUMENT FUND CONSISTS OF

THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTIONS, VIZ:-

F. V. Balch,	55.00
C. F. Crehore,	50.00
C. W. Folsom,	50.00
E. N. Hallowell,	50.00
N. P. Hallowell,	50.00
O. W. Holmes, Jr.,	50.00
J. Kelliher,	50.00
G. N. Macy,	25.00
H. W. T. Mali,	1,000.00
H. C. Mason,	75.00
N. T. Messer,	26.92
W. F. Milton,	100.00
F. W. Palfrey,	50.00
C. L. Peirson,	60.00
W. P. Perkins,	50.00
Mrs.& Miss Putnam,	1,000.00
The Ropes Family,	500.00
A. G. Sedgwick,	25.00
H. H. Sturgis,	50.00
C. L. Tilden,	50.00
C. A. Whittier,	50.00

The original Fund as it was stated in September 1873,	$3,416.92
Accumulations,	1,195.58
Total as stated on Sept. 20, 1873,	$4,612.50

May 5, 1880. Capt. J. H. Spencer 25.00
Sept. 20, 1873 Original subscriptions 3416.92
Total of original subscriptions 3,441.92
May 28, 1906, Capt. G. Magnitzky 125.00
3,566.92

See P. 152

see P.

MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS

CADET ARMORY
FERDINAND STREET,

P.O. BOX 2858
BOSTON

Feb. 20, 1897

John C. Rolfe Esq.
Treas. 20th Mass Assn Fund

My dear John

In hunting over old letters of the 20th I find that Capt. Jas. H. Spencer sub $25.00 to Gen. Palfrey for the Monument Fund in May, 1880. This is additional (subsequent) to the list that Gen. Palfrey sent out in 1873, and this is the only subscription since that date of which I find any limit. This will make the total of subscriptions to the Fund $3,441.92, instead of $3,416.92, as I wrote you on Feb. 11/96.

Yrs. most cordially
Edward Bolles

The thirty second meeting of the Association of the Officers of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was held on Friday, May 15, 1896, at 4 P.M., at the office of John C. Ropes Esq. 50 State St., Boston, on the call of the Secretary.

Present: —

Brevet Colonel Charles W. Folsom.
Francis V. Balch. Esq.
John Codman Ropes. Esq.
Brevet Captain Edward B. Robins.

Colonel Folsom was nominated chairman.

The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Ropes, for the committee, reported that he had consulted the Trustees of the Public Library, and they would accept our fund and would give us an alcove and cooperate most heartily with us.

On motion of Mr. Balch, it was voted that:- "The Treasurer be, and he herewith is, authorized to turn into cash, sell and dispose of, in his discretion any and all securities belonging to the Association, and no purchaser shall be held responsible for his use of the proceeds."

On motion of Mr. Ropes it was unanimously voted: —

"That the proposition to obtain an Alcove in the Public Library of the City of Boston, in which shall be deposited the Record Books, Flags, Swords, Photographs and other relics of the Regiment, together with a Tablet giving the names of those officers of the regiment who fell in the war, and such commemoration of the other officers of the regiment, and also of the men as may be thought desirable, together with a collection of Military and Patriotic books, with special reference to the late Civil War, (the details to be settled hereafter,) - meets with the approval of the Association."

"That Colonel Folsom and Captain Robins be a Committee to carry the above scheme into effect, and that they be, and they are hereby, authorized to employ such advice and assistance as they may see fit, and at such compensation as they may think fit, and also to go to any expense in any direction which they may deem advisable."

"That the Treasurer be, and he hereby is, authorized and directed to pay over to the Trustees of the Public Library any balance which may remain in his hands after defraying the

expense of carrying the foregoing project into execution; and that the receipt of the Trustees of the Public Library shall be a full discharge to the Treasurer of this Association".

The meeting then adjourned.

Edward B. Robins
Secretary

20TH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Boston, October 8, 1896.

Dear Sir:

Soon after the close of the Civil War several of the surviving members of the regiment and relatives of deceased officers subscribed to a fund for the purpose of raising a monument to the regiment, and especially to those of the officers and men who were killed in the war.

No suitable design or location for our monument presented itself until the city of Boston proposed to build a new Public Library.

The grand staircase of this building was to be ornamented with two massive lions, modelled by Augustus St. Gaudens, to be made of Siena marble. These two lions were selected by us and by the 2d Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry as monuments. The Library was finished and opened to the public this spring.

The inscriptions on our lion, in raised bronze letters, are as follows: —

IN HONOR

OF THE

TWENTIETH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

AND IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE

OFFICERS AND MEN WHO FELL IN ITS RANKS

THIS MONUMENT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE CITY OF BOSTON

BALL'S BLUFF	FAIR OAKS	GLENDALE
MALVERN HILL	ANTIETAM	FREDERICKSBURG
MARYE'S HEIGHTS	GETTYSBURG	BRISTOE STATION
THE WILDERNESS	SPOTTSYLVANIA	COLD HARBOR
PETERSBURG	APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE	

TWENTIETH
MASSACHUSETTS
INFANTRY
1861-1865

[Enclosed in Laurel Wreath.]

In addition to this, it was unanimously agreed that a book or books should be placed on the shelves of the Public Library, containing as full a record as possible of every officer and man that ever belonged to the regiment.

The whole of the original subscription and a portion of the accrued interest were expended in the purchase of our lion. There still remains a considerable

sum, which the surviving donors have decided to use in establishing a permanent fund for a military library, to be known as the 20th Massachusetts Memorial Fund. The Public Library of the city of Boston was selected as the most suitable place for our library. The Trustees have accepted the offer of this fund, and will co-operate most heartily in carrying out its objects. They will give us an alcove on the "Special Libraries" floor, accessible to all readers.

Our monument is thus threefold. First, the grand Lion on the staircase; second, the Alcove, to contain the full roster of the members of the regiment, and their history, and our library; third, the permanent 20th Massachusetts Memorial Fund for a collection of military and patriotic books. The first is finished, and we trust that all are pleased with it; for the second we need the assistance of all the survivors of the dear old regiment and of the relatives of those who have gone; the third will be put in charge of the Trustees of the Boston Public Library as soon as the second is completed.

The undersigned were appointed a Committee by the donors to prepare the roster and history of the regiment, to collect and arrange tablets, portraits, flags, and relics in the alcove, and to superintend the selection of books for our library.

Please attend to these matters *at once. Do not postpone them.* Try to send your contributions to the roster and history within one month of the receipt of this circular.

Please send everything to Capt. Edward B. Robins, Cadet Armory, Ferdinand Street, Boston. They will be kept in that fire-proof building until ready for the Public Library.

Please acknowledge on enclosed postal card the receipt of this circular, and state whether you will send any report, history, papers, etc., or any relics. A copy of this circular is sent to every member, and some relative of every deceased member, whose address can be found. Send us the address of any member who does not receive a circular.

Yours truly,

CHARLES W. FOLSOM,
Captain, A. Q.M., Bvt. Colonel, U. S. V.

EDWARD B. ROBINS,
First Lieut. 20th Mass., Bvt. Captain, U. S. V.

20TH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

ALCOVE.

The Memorial Alcove in the Boston Public Library will be a supplementary monument to the regiment, where opportunity will be offered to express more fully our admiration and affection for our departed comrades, with a record of their service.

This alcove will contain suitable tablets, and, in addition, several thousand military books, also a collection of such memorials of the officers and men of the Twentieth Regiment as are suitable for preservation on the shelves or cases of a library. An opportunity is thus afforded for the safe custody in an accessible situation of memorial objects and records, which will acquire far greater value and interest when brought together than they can possess while scattered and inaccessible. Our permanent fund will provide for the repair and increase of the collection.

It is hoped to preserve here, not only all bound volumes or pamphlets relating to the war, but also diaries, letters, maps, manuscripts, officers' commissions, portraits or pictures, either photographic or engraved, and, in fact, any objects which can be put in book form or which can be preserved in portfolios or drawers.

The rules of the Library do not admit of the placing of what are commonly called "relics," such as cannon-balls, shells, uniforms, or equipments, *upon the shelves*, as the Trustees cannot give us space for what is commonly called a "museum." But we do expect to put up *in front of the alcove* two or more *military trophies*, to be composed of flags, muskets, sabres, bayonets, pistols, canteens, knapsacks, cartridge or cap boxes, or such other arms or military equipments as may prove available. Nothing is too small or insignificant for our purpose, provided that its size and shape do not unfit it for preservation in a *library*.

Anything sent to us will be gratefully accepted, and will meet with a proper disposition, and be treasured with the utmost care. Any express charges will be defrayed by the receivers.

20TH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

HISTORY AND ROSTER.

Visitors to the Public Library will see our lion on which no names are placed, except those of our principal battles; they will be attracted by our alcove, with its flags, tablets, portraits, etc.; they will inquire about our service in the field. It is proper, and *it is due to the 20th Massachusetts* that this alcove should contain a complete Roster and History of the Regiment.

The survivors of the Twentieth, a regiment whose courage, patience, and reliability, and almost unsurpassed losses in battle, were, at the time of the war, matters of common knowledge, are rapidly passing away. Now, therefore, is the time to prepare its history; and we must depend upon the survivors and upon the relatives of the departed for the facts. We request you to look up old diaries, letters, etc., and give us exact facts and dates about your battles, skirmishes, marches, and camps, with the names of officers and number of men in your own company on each occasion, and, if possible, the names of other officers and number of men in the whole regiment.

Tell of your wounds, sicknesses, furloughs, and absent duty, with dates of leaving and rejoining the regiment, stating where you were when absent.

If ever captured, give full particulars of capture, when and where confined, how treated, etc. Give accounts of any comrades that were killed, wounded, captured, or sick at any time, or whom you met in hospital or prison.

Let any one write of his whole service, or of one campaign, or of one battle, — about himself or his company or the regiment, — write as full a story as he wishes, or only give a list of dates and places. Everything will be examined and worked into the history as far as possible, or copied into our books, or filed away in our alcove.

We want also the place and date of your birth, and all such facts of personal history — ancestral as well as since the war — as you can send us. Tell all items about yourself that you would now like to learn about an ancestor that served in our Revolutionary War.

While we desire a full (and accurate) roster of members, we wish also to publish a readable history of the noble old regiment. We propose to show the Twentieth as it was: its daily life with all its incidents, in camp or on the march, in victory or defeat. The jokes and songs, the *nicknames* even, will all count. Let us have the good times as well as the hard times.

Any maps, photographs, tintypes, drawings, or sketches of camp or marches will be welcome.

If you have any diaries, papers, letters, etc., that you wish to keep, but will lend us for copying, we will take great care of them and return them to you in a few days.

Verified
E. B. Robins

Letters from Henry M. Plimpton
Captain Co. "A" 20th Mass.

No 8 Edwards Ferry, Md.

Sunday, October 6, 1861.

Dear folks at home.

---------- We shall be paid by Oct. 1st to September 1st and shall then receive no pay until sometime in November. Then we shall receive pay for September and October -

---------- Nothing has occurred since I last wrote you until Friday, when the rebels had the impudence to fire 8 or 10 shot and shell across the river. - Artillery was immediately sent to the river from Poolesville, and sent back 32 shot and shell in return. None of the rebels' guns did any harm and they withdrew their battery into the woods. Lt. Lee, who happened to be at the river, picked up one of their shells which failed to explode and brought it with him to camp; and then by Gen. Gander's orders detailed my company to march to the river after supper, and support the artillery - that is to go with them and render any assistance they needed. - We accordingly did so and reached the battery (Capt. Rickett's 1st regulars who was wounded, and taken prisoner at Bull Run, and is now at Richmond) and reported to Lieut. Woodruff in command at about eight o'clock p.m. - Here we have been ever since bivouacking in the woods, having erected huts to protect us from the dews and rains. - To be sure we don't fare very

sumptuously but then we have plenty. Lieut Woodruff I like very much. He was acquainted with Capt. Tillinghast, saw him at Bull's run and speaks very highly of him. I am afraid that we shall not see any more firing at present as the rebels seem to keep very shady, and think it very probable we may return to camp tomorrow or next day. I took a stroll at five o'clock this morning, alone down by the river and again later in the morning, and although there are plenty of rebels in the neighborhood on the other side not one was in sight. Whether they will cross or whether we shall go to meet them I cannot find out nor even find any one who does know. my own opinion is that they will not cross ----------

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(Signed) Henry M.

Continued on next page

[To Miss Louisa Hunt]

Verified
E. B. Robins

Wednesday morning
[October 23, 1861]

No 12

Dear Lou.

Reached camp last night at eleven o'clock. On Monday afternoon we had an engagement with the enemy in which our Reg. was badly cut up - Out of 57 men I took into action I lost in killed, missing, and wounded 22 - Lieut. Holmes is here in hospital wounded - Lieut. Whittier unhurt - I was struck with a spent shot which besides doubling me up for a few minutes, did no harm - Poor John Put. has had his right arm amputated. Capt. Archer is badly wounded. Capt. Schmidt and his two Lieuts. also wounded. Lieut. Putnam (his brother) since having died. Lieuts. Babo & Wesselhoft are missing. Col. Lee, Major, Adjutant & Lieut. Perry, are supposed to be prisoners. Co. K. with Lieut. Col. Palfrey went across the river yesterday under Genl. Banks' division. Cos. B. & E. were not in action. Sturgis, Hallowell, Brownshield, Bartlett, Macy, Abbott and myself are all right. I suppose we shall go down to the river again tonight or tomorrow and have another attempt.

(Signed) Harry

No 13. Camp Benton.

Sunday, Oct. 27 1861.

Verified
E. B. Robins

Dear Mother,

---- you have received ere this full accounts of the engagement. Mr. Howse of the Tribune was here about Wednesday and we gave him a fair account which he intended publishing in yesterday's paper. ----------

The wounded officers are all doing well; out of 22 who went into action, nine only returned uninjured. one of the wounded men died last night - out of 318 in action 146 are killed, wounded and missing. 29 out of the 56 I took in, are killed, wounded or missing - I scarcely think our Reg. or rather what is left of it, will enter action again just at present but that they will send us back towards Baltimore perhaps, to reorganize, recuperate and recruit. In this case some one will undoubtedly be sent to Boston to raise recruits and I shall try very hard to be the one sent. ---------- After the battle was lost Col. Lee told us officers to gather our men and follow him to the river which we did. On reaching there Maj. Revere and Adjt. Pierson endeavored to induce Col. Lee to cross the river to the island, he in my presence refused to do so saying he would not leave his men. He then moved off a short distance with the Major and Adjutant, and turning to look for him I could not see him. I presumed he had finally been induced

to cross the river and was safe on the other side. The river was at this time full of swimming and drowning men. a dozen would go below the surface at the same moment calling for help the bullets falling on the river were so thick that the stream resembled a sheet of water during a heavy shower. For my part I expected to be hit every moment and would have been perfectly satisfied to have sent home a few words to you that I preferred dying on the field to deserting my men. I could see but one resource left and turning to Capt. Bartlett who with his second lieutenant Abbott, and Whittier, were the only officers of our Reg. I could see. I proposed making a flag of truce of a handkerchief secured to a bayonet, telling those men of ours that could swim that they were at liberty to take care of themselves and that we would stay by those that couldn't swim proceed up the river and if we found no means of escape would deliver up ourselves as prisoners. Some three or four of my men who could swim preferred to remain with me and share my fate whatever it might be - the others who could swim started to swim across. So up the river we started with some 15 of the 20th Reg. men, and were soon joined by some 80 more men, stragglers from Baker's brigade and 15th Mass. Reg. After walking some 3/4 of a mile we reached Smart's mill from which a darkie was just venturing. We nabbed him at once and after some considerable talk and bribery, got from him that there was a small boat there (his master

fortunately was absent) he showed us the boat which was lying in the mill stream full of water, apparently unserviceable but on promising him $5.- he readily promised to put it in order for us, we afterwards learned that Col. Lee and his party had looked at this boat and concluded it was of no use; otherwise I should at this time have been a prisoner in Secessia) so we put all the men out of sight in a building until the boat was ready - soon the boat was carried down to the river, and then we commenced sending the men over: she would only carry five at a time - I sent George among the first (he had remained near the fight all the time*) giving him my watch and sword, neither of which did I mean for the secesh to have (retaining my revolver to intimidate the men in case they became mutinous) also instructions relative to my trunks and things at camp, with a message to you at home, as I felt confident we could not remain there long enough to send the boat to and fro some 16 times before being discovered by the rebel pickets, and Bartlett and myself had made up our minds to see the men safe across before going ourselves. George was very loth to go indeed, preferring to remain with me. Lamson of my company said he would not go until I went, but I told him he must, we finally compromised it however by his asserting that he

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*Poor fellow! his brother was killed on the field.

would go but that he should pull, or rather paddle the boat until I came, which he did, making some 15 or 16 trips. I shall not soon forget it and shall reward him as soon as possible. King also of my company after being sent over to the other side once, returned to stay with me and share my fate. Searle of my Co. when his turn came to go, said, "Capt. it is my turn to go now, but I wish you'd take my place and I'll remain." But I sent him along. About 9 1/2 p.m. we all got across and I shall not very soon forget my moonlight paddle across the Potomac. The Rebel Picketts visited the mill about half an hour after we left. I did not neglect to give the darkie his $5.- and considered it the best bargain I ever made. - My meerschaum which I was smoking on the field just before the fight opened I brought off with me. George also had a mirror of mine with him all the time. I have also a sword I picked up on the field as a memento. -

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(Signed) Henry M. -

James River, July 4, 1862.

Verified
E. B. Robins

Dear folks at home.

---------- We have had rather an exciting time for the past few days. ----------

------- I will endeavor to give you a little sketch of our movements for the last few days. Little Mac had decided on Friday last to fall back on James River and accordingly made all the preparations you read about in the papers - on Satd'y night four companies of the 20th (one of which was A) under command of Major Revere were ordered to load some cars with ammunition and push them from our camp down to Savages Station (as the locomotives had given up running) where it was to be destroyed. We reached there late in the evening where we remained until Sunday noon destroying ammunition of all kinds. During the morning we could hear the firing towards our old camp and at noon our troops made their appearance and took up a new line of which we formed a part. Later in the day the Rebs commenced shelling us which we returned and sent some troops to drive them out of the woods. Not doing it very rapidly the 20th went forward to help them, but it was about over when we got there. Some of our men were wounded by the shells. After dark two bos. of the 20th

A & K were sent out on picket under my command in the woods where the dead and wounded Rebs. were lying. Having posted my pickets I returned to where I had left the Reg. expecting to find them still there - but I was somewhat surprised to find that all the troops had retired leaving only the pickets to keep back the enemy. one company from the 32 N.Y. one from 15th Mass and 100 men from the 20th. not a very pleasant position to find one self in, and I assure you I was very glad when a Major (in command of the pickets), told me to withdraw my men and follow the road taken by the Reg. - we travelled until three a.m. on Monday when we overtook the Reg. and soon after crossed the bridge at White Oak Swamp where we halted for some three hours and then started on again. After a few miles we halted until noon when we were started for White Oak Swamp again but halted before reaching there. In about two hours we were again sent to where we had last come from and on reaching there went at once into the fight. when we came out there were only some 80 men of the Reg. to be found but they have been coming in ever since and we have now some 300. Col. Lee's horse fell on him and injured him Major Revere had two horses shot under him, one of which fell on him and hurt him somewhat. Col. Palfrey was slightly wounded. Lieut Howell mortally wounded

Lieut Patten and Abbott slightly also Lieut Mueller. I had some six men wounded. About midnight we started again and at daylight halted where during the day there were two fights in which we did not participate farther than being shelled for a while. At midnight we started again and at noon reached the James River pretty well used up. Here we remained until yesterday when we were got under arms again and marched for a short distance in the direction from which we had so lately come - soon however we returned to camp again where we remained until this morning when we were marched to this place which is about a mile from the James River towards the interior on the same road which we came in on. Nearly all the wagons, ambulances etc came through safely and I assure you the number was immense. Col. Lee was used up and has twenty days leave of absence as also Lieut. Mason, Riddle and Tilden. My see Lieut (Perkins) is absent sick + Whittier is acting Adjutant so I am alone with my Co. Capt. Cabot and Archer are both unfit for duty. The ten companies are merged into eight and we muster about 250 men. Powell Wyman was shot dead in the same action we were in. Maj. Lamson told me he had secured his body. Maj. Low of the 19 Mass. was killed. Col Hinks was wounded. It was a masterly movement moving so many

troops and trains with so little loss. Every time the enemy attacked us they were repulsed & we took several batteries from them. We got all our guns from the earthworks & have them with us. None of us know what the next move will be, but I reckon Secesh wont let us alone long. - - - - - - -

- -

(Signed) Henry M. -

"Nelson's Farm". (22-Mass. Gov. B-118)

Lieut. A. Kirschner to Lieut. Lee Barnes.

Veripid
E.B.R.

Camp at Harrison's Landing,
July 20, 1862.

..... was with Co. D. Capt. Hallowell. He behaved bravely in the hotest fire he never left the front rank. Capt. Dreher did the same. Hallowell get a grasing ball on his hip. Although he did not say anything till we came back, then he showed it to me. The place was red and swollen.

We advanced from the rear trough an open field to ~~partly~~ pretty light wood + from there to another open field where one of our batteries before was posted. The pieces, except one, were already turned on one side. We advanced on a little Hill about 30 yds in front of this canon + kept there a brisk fire, the 7th Mich. on our left. Shortly after we came on the top of the hill the enemy tried to flank us out. seeing this the Mich regt fellt back, advanced once more, fired + went back agin. After this we kept our ground about 20 minutes when we get the order to fall back slowly back also. We did so + formed a new line in the age of the wood + stood there for about three quarters of an hour. In the meantime the enemy came so far as to the Co ....(x) + fired at short distance on us. We were obliged to fall back agin

& lost one another in the light woods. By our next junction we had one 87 men. When the Mich. reg't did not break we could keep our ground good deal longer if not at all. Co. B. lost the most. Out of 44 men they lost 13 wounded & 6 missing. Corp. Büttinger & Arnold were left on the battle field. Sgt. Wagner & Pabst & Böhme. Haass got wounded in the first open field. .... Moses Roth is death. He died on the road in a broken ambulance. Büttinger and Meier found him & buried him. He had no bread in his Haversack & no water in his canteen. I think he starved to death. Kretschmer we lost also. The last time we saw him was at Savage's Station walking on two sticks ..... Sgt. Wagner lost the middle finger of his left hand. He is one of the best men in the reg't. The last 3-4 ~~mon~~ mos. he was sick and very weak but he never was missing in an engagement. Wittekindt got sun struck about 2 hours before our engagement at Nelson's Farm. He did well too. Kajenskey & A. Büttinger were the only cowards in Co. B. agin. It is a pity that we lost so many men for nothing then we lost from our best men, no others have been in the fight. .... Sgts. Holmes & Compass of Co. K. got shot by shells some says by our own. Miller (Lt. Müller) got shot in the leg. He was taken prisoner & is now released on parole.

20th Massachusetts Association.

Boston, Dec. 12, 1898.

The following tribute of admiration and affection was offered and unanimously adopted at a meeting of this Association, held this day.

"In the year just closing we have lost one of our comrades,- one of the purest, ablest, noblest of men, one whose heart was ever open, whose hand was ever ready to assist any member of the 20th Massachusetts Regiment,- Francis V. Balch. We cannot permit the death of so rare a man to pass unnoticed.

Actuated by the highest patriotism he responded to the President's call for 300,000 volunteers issued in July, 1862, immediately after the failure of the Peninsula Campaign. With his customary modesty he enlisted as a Private in Co. I of the 20th Massachusetts on Aug. 2nd, left Boston on Aug. 5th, and joined the regiment at Harrison's Landing a few days later. In camp he devoted himself most zealously to his work, and learned his new duties with the utmost devotion. A quiet, retiring student, he endured the rough life and coarse food of the soldier without a murmur, and performed his uncongenial work with faithfulness and with the zeal of a Christion patriot, refusing all association with the officers, many of whom were his juniors in college, and all attempts by them to lighten his labors. He had enlisted as a Private, and he accepted a Private's position and performed a Private's work as his contribution to the cause of the Country he loved so well.

When the march down the Peninsula was begun on Aug. 16, 1862, which was the opening of another campaign against the Rebels, he started with eagerness to perform his share. But his delicate frame was unequal to

the task,- his slight body was far weaker than the noble soul within. It was a wonder indeed that he was able to carry a musket, knapsack and the other accoutrements for even a single mile! He struggled on for a few days, but finally fainted away and was carried to the hospital, from which he was sent sick with fever to the Douglas Hospital in Washington, D. C., where he was discharged from the U. S. Service on Nov. 19, 1862.

His service was short, but it commanded the honor and respect of all who knew him. He did what he could.

Since his connection with the regiment he has gladly assisted every comrade who was in distress, and has asked frequently that any case of need of any member of the 20th should be reported to him in order that he might quietly relieve it. He was an absolutely unselfish man, and never considered for a moment any expenditure of money or advice, time or trouble, provided he could be of any assistance. He was in very truth an ideal comrade."

Edward B. Robbins

Brevet Captain U. S. Vols.
Late 1st Lieut. 20th Mass. Vol. Inf.
President 20th Massachusetts Association.

Official:-

(Sgd) C. C. Newell

Secretary and Treasurer

Acting Major Geo. N. Macy
to
Lieut. Col. A. W. Palfrey.

Received
E. B. R.

Head Qts 20th Mass
Falmouth, Va.
Dec. 20/62.

My Dear Colonel

I have tried to find time to make known to you the glorious deeds of your old regiment, but you know how much is to be done after such fearful loss as we have made.

Well, Colonel, I have led the 20th through two fearful battles and privately I am the happiest man alive, or I receive nothing but the highest praise from all sides. Our regiment was so conspicuous, especially in the street fight, we being the only one engaged, that every body knows of our deeds and talks about them. But, Col., our loss is fearful - I will give you a brief account of the affair.

Dec. 10 we were on picket. Dec. 11 - 3 a.m. orders came for me to withdraw and report to Col. Hall.

I did so and at daylight the 20th led the Brigade, and we marched to the river. The command had already formed, and never was there a more beautiful sight than that morning as we marched forth to battle. The moon just setting and the sun rising, while a thick mist enveloped every thing. It was grand indeed, and never did troops feel in better

spirits.

We arrived at the Long Bridge, leading to the city, were drawn up in line of Battle. The artillery of the enemy occupied the opposite heights. The engineers found it impossible to clear the bridge. I passed on - our guns fired upon the rebels, driving them by shotted and bottled canister, but the enemy laughed at this and still continued to run from wall to wall. Gen. Gates said I thought that a council of war, with the couple commanders, Gen. Couch was given the advance. Gen. G. turned to Gen. Howard and said "you will have the advance". Gen. H. turned to Col. Hall - said "you will have the honor of leading the Army of the Potomac across the river". Col. Hall gave the 20th the front, and told me that I should lead the brigade. Well, I felt proud of that - it leading us on, I was sure that I had carried every little battle - I felt that I could lead the 20th, and I knew they would follow. *

To Green-Finding it impossible to clear the bridge - Col. Hall was ordered to cut two regiments on the river bank to cover the enemy. We met the 7th Mich. & 19th there. We told me that, although these two Regts were put in this position in cons,

* See Many days after 1862 we met the Richmond Cadets and asked them why they did not follow us. "Why, Colonel, we followed you as long as we could, but you kept ahead of us all the time!" "Well, I thought you would lead the regiment when we came to the Long Bridge!" "Why, Colonel, we thought you would lead the regiment when we came to the Long Bridge!" and this regiment followed.

Edward Richardson

port, that I need not look so disappointed about it, as he should put the 20th where they were promised and where the best troops would be needed.

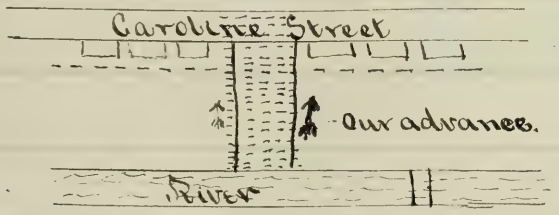
The 7th which then volunteered to cross in boats and drive the devils out and so then the way. As they crossed in boats, meeting with considerable loss. Their Col., Baxter, was wounded, - all this time some thirty or four guns were playing round shot into the port of the city making sad havoc.

The 7th took a number of prisoners and drew up in line on the bank. The 19th then went over. The column was then led forward. The bridge was nearly completed, but while doing so, I noticed the 20th in boats formed line under the bank.

The 19th was then deployed on the right, the 7th on the left, of a street running at right angles to river. were ordered to move forward as skirmishers through city, while I was ordered to move up the street with the 20th, (leaving a guide, an old man and refugee)

My orders were to push forward the skirmishers & drive the enemy from the city - bayonet every rebel found - take no prisoners - I led forth - immediately upon rising above the bank we were under a hot fire from houses & fences from all directions. My

quite frightened—I pushed him forward and he proved dead-shot. Abbott's company was so strong—I immediately ordered him to form by platoons & fire—we still moved forward.



The skirmishers came upon—they had **halted** in rear of the houses on Caroline St.—I could not get them to move further, the fire was dreadful. I went to rear in order and was ordered "push forward—drive them out".

"Forward 20th in Column"—I used some strong language to the officers in command of pickets—ending by referring them to a very hot place, but they would not move forward.

I advanced—had hardly the least idea what to do, but did not falter a moment. Made Abbott cross Ld. St & wheeled the 2d & 3d Companies to right and left respectively. Here we cleared the houses rapidly, but shots came from far and near—we could see no one and were simply murdered—as every shot of the enemy took effect. How I escaped I cannot say, as I was everywhere and more than

a dozen actually all upon me. I turned left — to Abbott — he did nobly. Here we fought for 2½ hours, & night came to our relief. We silenced the hostile fire — Abbott advanced about 30 yds, but it was no use, as we were the only troops fighting & we supporting the right & left — because the troops on them would not advance.

Poor Abbott fell shot in head — his company wd wheeled to right and the shot which killed him came from Abbott's front.

Capts. Shepard, Curtis, Wilkins & McCray were wounded & 100 men killed and wounded. We went in with 307. Abbott lost 35 men out of 60 - 10 of them killed. It was awful - we held the place during the night.

I met with the warmest praise at Head Qrs. in the evening for my conduct and that of the Regt.

When I sent to rear to ask that troops might be sent forward on my left to stop the heavy fire there I was told the 42nd N.Y. had gone there. The fire increased so from that direction that I again sent word that I thought 42 had advanced and mistook us for the enemy — upon this the 42nd was looked after and found not to have advanced at all. So, if you hear that we were shot by our own men, you can contradict it. It is positive. They had not advanced an inch, and no one else but the 20th. Thank God.

Howe was sick and not there.

In the morning Gen. Sully relieved us, and we went back to river bank - the enemy had withdrawn, nothing but their pickets in sight. The enemy threw shells all day.

The city was given up entirely to sack, and such sights were never witnessed. It was a fine city. Soldiers making coffee in silver pitchers, cleaning guns with lace under sleeves &c - Nothing seemed to be revered - Houses torn to pieces - Beautiful paintings, pianos - In fact everything which wealth and luxury gives was there in abundance - I have a little trinket for you which I will send - It is a star - (Generalis)

Time passed on - Dec. 13. 3 p.m. we were led out and drawn up in line in front of enemys works - a terrific fight was going on. We were led to the right. Our regiment was the extreme right of the line - The fight commenced. The enemy in rifle pits + pouring grape and round shot, shells etc. upon us. I was ordered to charge - the whole Brigade went forward - we went as the 20th always does - perfectly - the 19th was on our left. Mind, there was nothing on our right - a perfectly clear ground and the enemy high above us with a battery that completely enfiladed our line - When

Brigade advanced about 50 yds. - the 19th Maine and stood. This did not look well for me. Allen, left dead - Fisher wounded - Berkwith ill - at the moment orders came to retire my Regt. again. "In retreat march" I said and back we came - marched again where we started from, which was under a little cover. I am more proud of this retreat than anything. It was done coolly and in good order - here we remained until 5 a.m. when relieved by 4th Infantry. Lost here 60 killed wounded, besides officers. It was awful again, but the 20th will go above.

This is about all - I have written in great haste.....

..... I have appointed Walker, Co. F, + Hibbard, Co. H, Act. Lieuts. + applied for Coms. - also Coryell, absent sick, + Walker, wounded at Antietam. The two former behaved noble. How strange the list of wounded and how strange the preservation of the little band left.

Goodby.

(Signed) Mary.

From 2nd Lieut. Henry Lo. Patten, Commanding Company E. 20th Mass.

Rapid E.B.R.

Bolivar Heights, Va.
Sept. 29th, 1862.

Dear Father

Our whole Corps is quietly encamped on the top of Bolivar Heights - the place lot. miles surrendered - as quietly as if we had not just been participators in a great battle. I have written to mother about our slow and wearisome march from the vicinity of Washington to the scene of the battle of Antietam. That battle has been described to you by the numerous correspondents of the press, whose special business it is to find out everything, much better than I can, who have been constantly busy with my duties and who saw only a very little part of the field on that day. Our regiment was in the second line and were not actually engaged in the fight until the enemy got on our flank and forced us to retire from the field. But we [were] under fire for hours. We advanced under a severe fire of shells and roundshot and grape and canister and whatever else the rebels shoot from their cannon and when we halted we stood within a rod of the first line and sinckly stood still while

our men and officers fell around us. The men kept quieting on their muskets and the officers chatted and smoked their cigars and pipes all the while. 200 of our men were raw recruits, undrilled and never before under fire, yet they did well. I was unhurt save by the sand that covered me all over from some missile that struck the ground two feet behind me and glancing up wounded the man next behind me, left.

While we were there standing, watching the line before us firing and falling, the cry suddenly was the enemy are behind us, and sure enough the rebels were not 25 rods from us, coming in on the left flank, the regiments on our left were breaking. We about faced and the left wing of the regiment (in which wing is my company) alone could see without killing men of our own side. We did fire, but while firing did not hear the order given by Gen. Sumner to retire, and we staid while the other regiments and the rest of our men were filing off the field. I noticed the right of our regiment leaving, but I supposed they were going without orders and chose to stay a while longer and did not give my company (I command it now) the order to leave until nothing was visible but the enemy and the rear of the 19th Mass. filing off the field. During the short time we there stayed we

were exposed to a fire in front and rear. Of my 20 men and non-commissioned officers - 17 are killed, wounded and prisoners - 13 of them killed and wounded - 4 missing - either prisoners or killed. I alone that I escaped by a miracle, almost while I stood there I had no expectation of escaping. But I was not even scratched and my only wound is the still unhealed one of Nelson's Farm.

The ground we thus lost was retaken within the hour.

The battle was the most hotly contested of the war. The result disappointed us, for the enemy escaped across the river, but the result was a victory, the enemy left 3000 unburied dead on the field and many wounded ~~[illegible]~~ even of those within their own lines. That is not only the wounded on the field ~~[illegible]~~ we won from them, but even those left in their possession. The number of their unburied dead is startling when you remember that they had nearly 48 hours of leisure to bury all they could.

The battle field was a horrible sight. For miles lay the dead, sometimes in windrows, two or three abreast to one of ours. I went all over a large part of the field myself, being detailed to bury the dead of two brigades. I have not had a line from home since I retreated

to the sept. We are no longer in Sedgwick's Div. Kindly
kindly to the reg. & books

Tommy

"1st Fredericksburg, by Corporal Edward P. Green, Co. I

Letter Oct. 8, 1899. Verified Edward Green

x x x x x x x x

"We left camp early in the morning and marched to the river opposite the town. We lay there on the bank of the river nearly all day, watching the bombardment, and sometime in the afternoon we were told that our regiment (20th Mass.) and 7th Michigan had been selected to make an attempt to cross over in the pontoon boats, as the engineer regiment had been unable to lay the pontoon bridge under the heavy fire from the sharp shooters.

When the time came to go, we were asked if any of us objected to going, and, if so, to step to the rear, as it was a sort of forlorn hope and none but volunteers were wanted. - None however stepped out, and we marched down to the river only a few rods away, jumped into the boats and sped them across. I do not remember how many men we lost in crossing.

As soon as we landed the regiment was formed in column of companies - our Company, I, at the front - and commenced the march through the city. While forming we were protected from their shots by the river bank about ten feet high, but just as soon as we showed our heads above the bank we got a worse dose than epsom salts - the shots came or seemed to come

from every house in the town, while not a man was in sight. We lost 100 men in twenty minutes, which will give some idea of the racket. I only succeeded in getting us one block from the landing place, as I got a rap on the wrist by a bullet that tore through my overcoat blouse and shirt sleeve - a glancing blow that disabled me. I then, by order of Capt. Abbot, went back across the river with the other wounded men, to the "Lacy House" and was there until after the battle.

That is my experience in the memorable Fredericksburg fight." x x x x x

1st Fredericksburg, by Captain Albert B. Holmes, then Sergeant. Company I.

Letter Oct. 16, 1899.

Verified E. B. Robins

× × × × × × ×

"Now in regard to the street fight at Fredericksburg, will say that in my personal history to Robbins I gave a full account of this, but think it will bear repeating, for I agree with you that the 20th has never had the credit due them on this occassion, as ours was the only one of the three Regts that crossed in Boats that made the advance and cleared the streets of Fredericksburg. Col. Hall, who was in command of our Brigade at the time, seeing how useless it was to try and throw our Pontoon bridge across the river owing to the fact that sharpshooters in the city were continually picking off our pontoners, volunteered the services of his Brigade to cross the river in the pontoon boats and drive the Rebs from the banks of the river; and General Burnside quickly accepted the offer, and three Regts were chosen, namely, 7th Mich 19th & 20 Mass Vols: and they crossed in the following order under a heavy fire, losing some men wounded. The Col. of 7th Mich was badly wounded - 7th Mich, 19th Mass 20 Mass - the 7th Mich deployed on the banks of the river to left of Caroline street, the 19th Mass deployed

on the river bank to the right of Caroline Street, the Co had orders to clear the streets, so we formed in column by platoons, our Co. & having the advance in two platoons, other companies forming in same order; and, when all was ready, we commenced the advance via Caroline St.—we received only a few scattering shots until we came to the crossing of the street that run at right angles to Caroline, when they opened on us from all quarters, from front and on both flanks, from Garrett to Collar, and from behind fences; but our boys never faltered but moved steadily forward, returning shot for shot. When Co Co. had crossed the street, Capt. Capots Co. F. wheeled to the right and the next Co. to the left, and the street fight was on in earnest. The rebs, being in the houses, had the advantage and their fire was deadly, and finally Capt. Abbott, seeing how few rebs men were falling, gave the order to break in the houses; and we soon had the rebs on the run, for after their first discharge we were close on to them and as we went into the front doors they would scoot out the back and across the back yards; but few of them got away without a shot and we took many prisoners. Although the engagement lasted but about 2 hours, Co. D, that crossed the river with 65 men, had 35 killed and wounded; and

of this number 15 were killed, and we buried them in a corner lot near where they fell. The other companies of our Regt suffered badly, but ours being the right flank Co suffered the worst,—with the exception of the Wilderness, it was the hottest fight of the war for me,—and so you will see by this that, although the 20th was the last to cross the river, they were the first and only Regt that advanced and drove the Rebs out of the City in front of the right Grand Division commanded by Sumner,—and I must say that I am surprised that history does not give a more detailed account of this fight, as by our driving the Rebs back the Pontoniers soon had the bridge completed and the right grand division crossed that night. We remained in the City until the afternoon of the 13th, when we formed and marched out for the charge on Marye's Heights under a heavy artillery fire—we formed under the brow of a little hill a few ~~[illegible]~~ rods in front of the Rebel rifle pits in an open field—our Regt was at the extreme right of the line, our right resting on a brick Tannery, and we had to keep our flankers,—when the order was given for the advance, the boys moved forward in perfect order under a heavy fire from rifle and cannon and

I felt ~~since~~ sure we had won the day, when, looking down the line to the left, I see the line waver and halt and then fall back, as if they had been driven back by a gale of wind; our flank was the last to go back, and we stood our men under the hill when we had rallied. Had we been broken, subjected, I felt sure we could have carried the heights, but our sixpoints could not stem the heavy fire which swept across the open field, and so we lost the day, and some precious lives. Allen fell here, where we were well advanced on the works, and we had three color bearers shot down. After dark we went out and brought in the dead and wounded, and then lay on our arms in the chill Dec weather, almost frozen, our teeth chattering, until about midnight, when we fell back and recrossed the river to our old quarters in Falmouth. I am in hope that a true history of this battle will be written while there are some of the survivors still alive, and, if at any time I can be of service to you, I shall be only too glad to help you; for you know I had an army record second to none, and that I feel proud to hand down to my children."

From 2nd Lieut. Henry L. Patten, Commanding
Co. E. 20th Massachusetts.

Verified
E. B. Robins

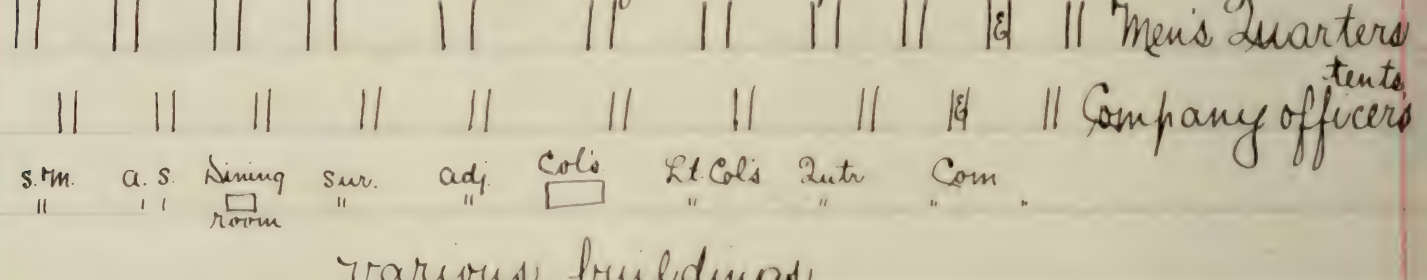
Camp Benton,
January 3rd, 1862.

Dear Father:

× × × × Our camp is about two miles west of Poolsville, a mile and a half from the Potomac, at Edward's Ferry, 35 miles from Washington, 20 from Frederick, 6 or 8 from Leesburg, Va., 25 from Manassas Junction, -15 or 20 from Drainsville, from which we heard distinctly the cannonading on the day of the battle there - 4 from Conrad's Ferry. The country here is rolling - on this side of the river at least - finely wooded with oak (which, however, is fast disappearing beneath the Northern axe). The other side of the river we see high mountains in the distance. The Blue Ridge is visible and the mountains around Manassas Junction. We are on a low hill, which is itself in a valley, so that we are concealed from the glasses of the Rebels. Our camp was formerly a wheat-field. The ground is hired from the owner, who

though doubtless a secessionist in feeling, is paid in U. S. coin. Near us is the 7th Michigan (a fine regiment), the 2nd & 42nd New York and a Minnesota reg't. Rickett's Battery of the Regular Army is a mile off. At Poolsville are the 15th Mass. the Rhode Island Artillery, the Van Alen (N.Y.) Cavalry & the 42d N.Y. We are in Gen'l Stone's division - not Gen'l Banks'.

Form of Camp



The above is a rough sketch of the camp, leaving out the hospital, the stable, the guard house, etc., but you can see the general shape. Company E (marked E) is mine. Our day is spent in drilling and superintending our men. There are a thousand and one things to attend to which it would be tedious to enumerate. At night we talk 'round our fireplaces, where blazes Maryland oak in abundance, or read or write

You will approve our early hours. We have to get up at Reveille, and report ourselves at Headquarters. Our regiment is well disciplined. We punish sometimes pretty severely. The Lieutenants take turns in being officers of the Guard - when a part of the duties is to superintend the prisoners - not rebel prisoners but the rebellious ones of our own camp. I got into a scuffle with a prisoner the other night when trying to handcuff him. I broke my sword-belt, and got a bruise on the back of my head, but he was handcuffed in the end. He was drunk - whiskey - or what goes by that name, is the chief source of all our troubles. It will get smuggled into camp sometimes, do what we will to prevent it.

Our Regiment does its share of picket duty on the river - a duty which has its hardships and danger. But our ordinary camp life has little of either. The men live well, are well and handsomely clothed in army blue, and suffer less from the cold than they would at home. They have less to do than they would

at home. I wish I could have some men from Kingston and vicinity. I need more and am confident they would rather enjoy the life we lead. I am perfectly well, - I have never been better in fact.

We know not when we shall march. Write often.

Your ever affectionate son
[signed] Henry Lyman

From 2d Lieut. Henry L. Patten, Commanding Co. E. 20th Massachusetts. Rifles

E. B. Robinson

On Picket on the Potomac River.
Jan. 8, '62. 2 A.M.

Countersign - "Waterloo."
Parole "Wellington."

I overhear my corporal instructing a sentinel thus:—"Halt him, - if he don't stop, say Halt again; then, if he don't stop, By G-d, shoot him!" There is a sort of earnestness about the rhetoric of the corporal.

A hundred men of the 20th Regiment are scattered in posts of 6 men each over 8 miles along the river from Edward's Ferry to Seneca Mills. So few men are not intended for fighting, but for observation. They serve also to warn the main body of the approach of the enemy. A Captain commands the guard, while the superintendance of one half is given to a lieutenant. I have a line of 4 miles. Henry Ropes, who has just come, has 4 more. The Captain visits the whole during

the day. Each Lieut visits every post in his half - 4 miles - every night, after 12 o'clock, so that I have a walk of 8 miles after midnight. I have just returned from my tramp. It is the coldest night of the season, but there is no wind and the night is beautiful; the atmosphere clear and mellow. The Potomac is partially and in some places entirely frozen over. The current working on the ice produces a continual cracking and groaning. The canal, between which and the river we are posted, is kept open by the boats, so that, should the Potomac become hard enough to bear, we shall virtually be in Virginia, and may have an occasional brush with the Rebels.

The enemy's pickets extend along the other side of the river, but they are concealed. There is a large force directly opposite our post, recently arrived, so says the Field Officer of the Day who visited me this afternoon.

My headquarters are a small log hut without windows, with an opening for a door, in front of which I hang a

blanket at night. My men - 6 of 'em - a corporal and my mulatto boy (minister of my wants and cooker of my victuals) are co-tenants with me of this hut. It is rather close, but my men have built me a rude bedstead which elevates me above my subjects. Our huge fireplace of mud keeps the air from impurity.

We are about 4 miles from Camp and are here for a week.

My Corporal is a nice fellow from Vermont. Chapman is a stout Vermonter also, who spends his time in grumbling and smoking - two very inconsistent occupations, - for tobacco is a great soother, and your smoker is generally your contented man. Locke is a Frenchman, stout and cheerful, whose pipe is never out of his mouth except when eating and sleeping. Corcoran is a splendid looking Irishman with a most musical brogue. He is my crack soldier. Carpenter is a mild mannered Yankee, who prefers chewing to smoking, also tells his ceaseless stories about old Joe

Higgins, who lives just in the "age" of Mansfield, or somebody else, living just in the "age" of somewhere else - spitting - at the corners in the most delicate and skillful manner all the while. Swertland - a little taciturn, sallow Vermonter. Carey is a broth of a boy from the "ould counthry." Ellis Brown is my servant - these and myself compose Post No. 3 of the Picket Guard.

[Signed] Henry.

From 2nd Lieut. Henry L. Patten, Commanding Co. E. 20th Massachusetts

Rec'd E. B. Robins

Camp near Yorktown
(5 miles from it.)
Thursday, April 9th, 1862

Dear Bro.:-

We have not taken Yorktown yet. Not because we cannot take it, but because we have not yet tried. You can hardly realize the difficulties of transporting artillery, with which the attack on fortifications must mainly be made - and of supplies for an army of 100,000 men, with roads such as we have here. All supplies must come by water to Fortress Munroe, thence by water to Shipping Point on the York River, thence over horrible roads to this place. You have no idea of the condition of the roads here after a rain. We have an immense quantity of artillery here - and more troops and heavy guns are on the way.

I have hardly time to write you the least part of what would interest you here, moreover, I doubt if it will reach you

It has been raining for three days hard the wind northeast The men have no shelter, except what they can make for themselves It is rough enough I assure you There is a prospect of clearing up to day These three days of rain will put back our military operations at least a week So be not impatient

Monday part of our brigade, including the 20th, made a sort of reconnoissance of some of the batteries between us and Yorktown We saw the enemy and had skirmishes, but none of our reg were wounded. We did not know the plan of our leaders and firmly expected to charge the batteries The only use that was made of us, however, was to protect an engineer's party who were examining the fortifications. One of the 19th Reg was killed and two were wounded We were under the brow of a hill, staying there until we should be wanted. Several times the order came 'fall in' and we thought we were surely to advance on the batteries - but no only a few were thrown out as skirmishers and none were killed, although there were some narrow escapes. Love to all.

(Signed) Henry K. Patten

Hill is acting L. M. He says he is well
He received a letter from Mary and will write
soon.

(Signed) H.

Virgil E. B. Robins

From 2d Lieut. Henry K. Patten, Commanding Co. E. 20th Massachusetts

Bolivar Heights, Va.
Sept. 29th, 1862.

Dear Father:

Our whole Corps is quietly encamped on the top of Bolivar Heights - the place Col Miles surrendered - as quietly as if we had not just been participators in a great battle. I have written to Mother about our slow and wearisome march from the vicinity of Washington to the scene of the battle of Antietam. That battle has been described to you by the numerous correspondents of the press, whose special business it is to find out everything, much better than I can, who have been constantly busy with my duties, and who saw only a very little part of the field on that day. Our regiment was in the second line and were not actually engaged in the fight, until the enemy got on our flank, and forced us to retire from the field. But we were under fire for hours. We advanced under a severe fire of shells, and round shot, and grape and canister, and whatever else

the rebels shoot from their cannon; and, when we halted, we stood within a rod of the first line, and simply stood still, while our men and officers fell around us. The men leaned quietly on their muskets and the officers ~~talked~~ chatted, and smoked their cigars or pipes all the while. 200 of our men were new recruits, undrilled, and never before under fire, yet they did well. I was unhurt, save by the sand that covered me all over from some missile that struck the ground two feet before me, and, glancing up, wounded the man next on my left.

While we were thus standing - watching the line before us firing and falling, the cry suddenly was, 'The enemy are behind us,' and sure enough the rebs were not 20 rods from me, coming in on our left flank; the regiments on our left were breaking. We about faced and the left wing of the reg. (in which wing is my company) alone could fire without killing men of our own side. We did fire, but, while firing, did not hear the order given by Gen. Sumner to retire, and we stood while the other regiments and the rest of our own were filing off the

field I noticed the right of our reg leaving, but I supposed they were going without orders, and chose to stay a little longer, and did not give my company (I command it now) the order to leave until nothing was visible but the enemy and the rear of the 19th Mass. filing off the field. During the short time we thus stayed we were exposed to a fire in front and rear. Of my 29 men and non-commissioned officers 17 are killed wounded and prisoners; 13 of them killed and wounded; 4 missing either prisoners or killed. I feel that I escaped by a miracle almost. While I stood there I had no expectation of escaping. But I was not even scratched and my only wound is the still unhealed one of Nelson's Farm.

The ground we thus lost was retaken within the hour.

The battle was the most hotly contested of the war. The result disappointed us; for the enemy escaped across the river, but the result was a victory. The enemy left 3000 unburied dead on the field and many wounded, even of those within their own lines. That is not only the wounded on the

field we won from them, but ~~were~~ even those left in their possession. The number of their unburied dead is startling, when you remember that they had nearly 48 hours of ~~time~~ leisure to bury all they could.

The battlefield was a horrible sight - for miles lay the dead - sometimes in windrows, two of them, at least, to one of ours. I went all over a large part of the field myself, being detailed to bury the dead of our brigade.

I have not had a line from home since I returned to the reg. We are no longer in Sedgwick's Div. Direct simply to the reg. and company.

[Signed] Henry.

Verified
E. B. Robins

From 2d Lieut. Henry L. Patten. Commanding
Co. E. 20th Massachusetts.

Near Falmouth, Va.,
January 20, 1863.

Dear Mother:

I have been looking for a letter from home long.

We are to move to morrow to attack the enemy and I snatch a moment from a very busy time to write you. Probably our Corps will be in reserve, so do not be too much frightened, or, what is a better consolation, trust in God and fear no evil.

I regret the present policy of the administration and the absence of McClellan, but, on the whole, am hopeful.

I am not at all reluctant to go forward, although a ~~severe~~ snow storm is in prospect and am ready to do or die, or do and live to do again.

Love to all,
(Signed) Henry L. Patten.

From Henry L. Patten, 2d Lieut. Commanding Co. E., 20th Massachusetts.

Rec'd
E. B. Robins

London County, Va. Near Upperville.
November 4, 1862.

Dear Brother:

x x x "You see we have moved. We crossed the Shenandoah at Harper's Ferry and have marched along through the rich and beautiful County of London thus far train and great host, and from what I hear, the whole Army of the Potomac, larger than ever before, is moving again on to Richmond. We have lost Sumner and are in Burnside's Grand Army, in Couch's Corps. The weather is fine - the Indian Summer, and if it lasts long enough, is the best season of the year for a campaign, or, I should rather say, if the campaign is made short enough. We again look with wistful eyes towards Richmond. Expect a great battle shortly. We hope it will be a decisive one. Yesterday we firmly expected a fight. The cannon were booming a mile or two before us, and we filed into a field, and formed

in line of battle. We loaded and prepared for action but, before dark, the sound of cannon died away and we stacked arms and rested for the night.

I am acting Adjutant of the Regiment and ride on horseback. Would I had a good horse! xxxx

(Signed) Henry L Patten

Verified
E. B. Robins

From 2d Lieut. Henry L. Patten, Commanding
Co. E, 20th Massachusetts

Camp near Fredericksburg, Va.,
November 18, 1862.

Dear Mother:

You must excuse me for not having written you for more than a week, but we have been on the march constantly, and I have not found time.

I am very well, - not, a drop of news to write you.

Our Corps, under command of Gen. Couch, is encamped on the side of the Rappahannock opposite to Fredericksburg. The enemy have thus far fled before us. What further movements are contemplated we do not know.

I am told that our forces are moving upon Richmond by way of the Peninsula - that they are picketing the same line at Fair Oaks as we did last June. We are also told that a third attack is being made upon Richmond from the South (North

Carolina) In what way the Army here is moving I do not know. Our Corps form one column.

I ride a horse for the present as Adjutant - a very poor one, however.

Love to all.

(Signed) Henry

SUNDAY HERALD

TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.

FROM WASHINGTON.

NO IMPORTANT ARMY NEWS.

DISPATCHES FROM VICKSBURG.

List of Casualties in the 1st Mass. Cavalry Regiment.

Boston Sunday Herald, June 21, 1863.
Reproduced June, 1911.

[Special Dispatch to the Sunday Herald.]

WASHINGTON, June 20.

Intelligence from the front to-night presents nothing of startling interest. A report here this morning that Longstreet's corps was advancing is proved to be untrue. Our army is very active and vigilant.

Detailed dispatches received here from Vicksburg lead to a hope for a speedy result of the siege of that place.

Private dispatches received here state that Rear Admiral Foote cannot survive another day.

Mr. Tufts, the Massachusetts State Agent here, has obtained to-day the following partial list of casualties in the 1st Massachusetts Cavalry at the fight on the 17th inst. at Aldie. The wounded and maimed have arrived here:

Killed—Co. D, Corporals Hamilton and Hinman, Alonzo Jackson and George Grey. The latter was brought here wounded and died to-day. Co. H, Bayler Fish.

Wounded—Major Higginson, badly hurt—will recover; Capt. L. M. Sargent, shot through the lungs, but will recover; Lieut. Fillebrown, abdomen, dangerously; David Couch, Co. F; Benj. Holmes, Co. C; William H. Martin, Co. B; Wm. Jackson, Co. G; Seth Young, Co. D; Eben S. Winn, Co. B; George W. Smith, Co. A; John Willenby, Co. E; Corp. William Goss, Co. H; James Strong, Co. A.

Missing—Lieuts. Duchanry (not Tewksbury, as before reported), Higginson, Carey and Davis.

Assistant Surgeon Perry, of the 20th Massachusetts Regiment, accidentally broke one of his legs to-day.

The 20th Mass. 1908

1909

Co. G
Captured at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, 1861.

Editor National Tribune: Please give a short sketch of the 20th Mass.—Lawrence Griffin, 276 Hudson Blvd., Union Hill, N. J. Co. G. captured at Ball's Bluff, Va.

The 20th Mass., one of the fighting regiments, was organized at Readville, from August to September, 1861, and after serving out two enlistments finally mustered out July 16, 1865. It was commanded by Cols. Wm. R. Lee, Francis W. Palfrey, Paul Revere, and Geo. N. Macy, in succession. The 20th lost more in battle than any other Massachusetts regiment, sustaining a remarkable fatality in its field and staff. Gen. Humphreys spoke of it as "one of the very best regiments in the service." At Fredeicksburg it crossed the river in the face of the enemy's riflemen, who occupied buildings on the opposite bank. It was assigned the task of clearing the streets of that place and fought its way thru the main street amidst a shower of bullets. It lost in this fight 25 killed and 138 wounded. At Gettysburg it lost 127 out of 230, which it took into action. It took an active part in some 20 battles and was present at some 11 others. The 20th belonged to Gibbon's Division, Scond Corps, and lost 260 killed and 149 from disease, etc. Its total of killed and wounded was 944 and 63 of its members died in Confederate prisons. — Editor National Tribune.

Trans. RECENT DEATHS June 8, 1910.

HAD A GOOD CIVIL WAR RECORD

Patrick Lanergan of Wakefield Fought in Several Important Battles

Patrick Lanergan, a Civil War veteran, and former assistant postmaster of Wakefield, died early this morning of heart disease at his home at 182 Vernon street, Wakefield, at the age of sixty-three. Enlisting on July 18, 1861, as a private in Company I of the Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, Lanergan served through the entire war, taking part in twenty-four battles, and he was wounded three times, once at Antietam, again at Gettysburg, and at Spottsylvania. He became corporal, sergeant, and finally first lieutenant of his company. On March 4, 1864, he reënlisted on the battlefield at Stephensburg.

Some of the most important battles in which he took part, beside the engagements in which he was wounded, were: The battle of the Wilderness, of Fredericksburg, Ball's Bluff, Big Bethel, Yorktown, Peach Orchard, South Mountain, Chantilly, Two-Mile Creek, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, White Oak Swamp, Strawberry Plain, Malvern Hill, Mine Run, Petersburg, 'Deep Bottom, Ream's Station, Po River and Savage Station.

From 1895 to 1899 Mr. Lanergan acted as assistant postmaster of Wakefield under former Postmaster Thomas Hickey, and since then he has been an employee of the Charlestown Navy York. He was an active member of the Holy Name Society of St. Joseph's Church. He is survived by a widow.

Speech by Lieut. Col. O. W. Holmes,

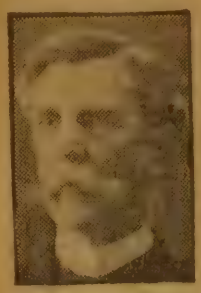
Commencement Day - 1911.

GEMS OF WIT, WISDOM AND ELOQUENCE.

THE CLASS OF '61.

By JUSTICE OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

Extract from a Speech Delivered Before the Harvard Alumni Association.



It has been my fortune to belong to two bodies that seem to me somewhat alike—the 20th Mass regiment and the class of '61. The 20th never wrote about itself to the newspapers, but for its killed and wounded in battle it stood in the first half-dozen of all the regiments of the North. This little class never talked about itself, but, graduating just as the War of Secession was beginning, out of its 81 members it had 51 under arms, the largest proportion that any class sent to that war.

We learn from time an amiable latitude with regard to beliefs and tastes. Life is painting a picture, not doing a sum. As 20 men of genius, looking out of the same window, will paint 20 canvases, each different from all the rest, and every one correct, so am I apt to think men may be allowed the defects of their qualities if they have the qualities of their defects. We all of us have our notions of what is best. I learned in the regiment and in the class the conclusion at least of the conduct that I believe best for the country and for ourselves—to see as far as one may the great forces that are behind every detail, and to feel them, for that makes all the difference between philosophy and gossip, between great action and small.

Man is born a predestined idealist, for he is born to act. To act is to affirm the worth of an end; to persist in affirming the worth of an end is to make an ideal. The stern experience of our youth confirmed the destiny of fate; it left us feeling through life that pleasures do not make happiness, and that the root at once of joy and beauty is to put out all one's powers to a great end.

As one listens from above to the roar of a great city that comes to one's ears, almost undistinguishable but there, the sound of church bells chiming the hours or offering a pause in the rush, a moment for withdrawal and prayer; commerce has outsoared the steeples that once looked down on the marts, but still their note makes music of the din. For those of us who are not churchmen the symbol still lives. Life is a roar of bargain and battle, but in the very heart of it there rises a mystic spiritual note that gives meaning to the whole. It transmutes the dull details into romance, it reminds us that our only, but wholly adequate, significance is as parts of an imaginable whole; it suggests that even as we think we are egoists, we are living to ends outside ourselves.

Transcript May 15, 1908.

BRIG. GENERAL C. A. WHITTIER

Died on Board the Mauretania, en Route to Liverpool

General Charles Albert Whittier, who sailed for Europe on the Mauretania on Wednesday, died yesterday on shipboard of apoplexy. Word of his death was sent by wireless to his son-in-law, Ernest Iselin, at New Rochelle, by W. Butler Duncan, another passenger. General Whittier was a frequent transatlantic traveller and did not make up his mind to sail until a few hours before the Mauretania left her dock. He had been in good health.

He was born in Maine in 1840. His grandfather, Nathaniel Whittier, was town clerk, selectman and held many other offices in the township of Vienna. Nathaniel Whittier was a captain of militia in the War of 1812. General Whittier's parents were Joseph Merrill Whittier and Mary E. Morgan. After graduating from Harvard in 1860 the son entered the volunteer army. In 1865 he was brevetted brigadier general. General Whittier was commissioned a lieutenant colonel and inspector general at the outbreak of the Spanish War and went to Manila on General Merritt's staff. He was promoted to be brigadier general after the fall of Manila for gallant service, and was made collector of customs at that port after United States authorities assumed control. He married Lilla Chadwick and had lived recently at 247 Fifth avenue. His daughter Pauline became Mrs. Ernest Iselin and his daughter Susie married Prince Serge Belosselsky-Belozersky of St. Petersburg.

General Whittier was a member of the Metropolitan and Union clubs of New York and the Metropolitan Club of Washington.

1. DIED.

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant FREDERICK CROCKER, U. S. N., at Montevideo, Uruguay, S. A., February 3, 1911.

Brevet Captain HENRY M. PHILLIPS, Second Lieutenant, 4th Massachusetts Cavalry, at Springfield, Mass., March 2, 1911.

Lieutenant Colonel JOHN W. SUMMERHAYES, U. S. A., at Nantucket, Mass., March 8, 1911.

Brevet Major ADIN B. CAPRON, First Lieutenant, 2d Rhode Island Infantry, at Smithfield, R. I., March 17, 1911.

Mr. FRANK B. PARSONS (Succession), at Boston, Mass., March 16, 1911.

NOTED MEN AT HIS BIER

Capt Magnitzky Given a Soldier's Funeral.

Justice Holmes and Other Civil War Officers Among Mourners.

The honor of a soldier's funeral was accorded Capt Gustave Magnitzky, civil war veteran, yesterday afternoon at the chapel in Forest Hills cemetery. The little stone building ws crowded with his comrades of the Loyal Legion, F. W. Kinsley post 113, G. A. R., relatives and other friends.

Previous to the services at the chapel there was a private service at the residence at 127 Chestnut av, Jamaica Plain, conducted by his intimate friend, Mr Hoffman.

The casket, draped with a large silk flag, was borne into the chapel by Maj Edward T. Bouve and Capt E. B. Rollins, representing the Loyal Legion, Wellington Garrison Reed and Oliver P. Ricker of E. W. Kinsley post 113, G. A. R. On it rested wreaths of white roses and white and purple asters.

At the front of the pulpit platform were the stands of colors and emblems of the Loyal Legion. Surrounding the casket was a profusion of beautiful floral tributes from comrades of military organizations of which Capt Magnitzky was a member, and from relatives and business associates and other friends.

A civic service was conducted by Rev Edward Anderson of E. W. Kinsley post 113, G. A. R., which opened with the playing of the "Pilgrim's Chorus" from Tannhaeuser by the Boston Symphony horn quintet, composed of Max Hess, Albert Hackebath, Franz Hein, Carl Schumann and Carl Hampe.

Rev Mr Anderson read from the scripture. The Schubert male quartet sang "Comrades in Arms." Rev Mr Anderson spoke in term of eulogy of his deceased comrade, saying his life story was that of a good man and a brave soldier. He recited his war record and told how after the war he was called upon to fill a high position in the U S army and after his retirement from the army rose to positions of trust in civil life.

Then the ritual of the G. A. R. was conducted by Acting Commander Oliver P. Ricker of Kinsley post, assisted by Rev Edward Anderson chaplain, and other officers. During this service the quartet sang "Call the Roll." The service ended with a selection by the horn quintet, "A Psalm," by Mendelssohn, and the sounding of taps by comrade John M. Flockton.

Burial was in the family lot on Sambucus path, where taps was sounded.

The ushers were Huntington Saville, Albert M. Chandler, Frank C. Chandler, Emil Haberstrah and Derby Lawrence.

Among those present were Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of the U S supreme court, a comrade of Capt Magnitzky in the war; Capt Charles H. Porter, recorder of the Loyal Legion; Gen Greenleaf Goodale, USA, retired, and president of the Hooker association; F. E. Orcutt, supervisor of accounts of Massachusetts; James T. Leatherbee, Gen Thomas R. Mathews, Dr John Dixwell, Col Arnold A. Rand of the Loyal Legion, Rev Henry Hinkley, Gen N. P. Hallowell of the 20th Mass regt association, Ex-Senator Frank Seiberlich, a delegation of comrades of the 20th Mass regt association, Loyal Legion and other military and civic organizations.

CAPTAIN MAGNITZKY

To the Editor of the Transcript:

I was expecting to stop and see Captain Magnitzky on going to town this week, when the telephone told me that he was dead. Our friendship has lasted for nearly fifty years. He was my First Sergeant when I commanded Company G. of the Twentieth Massachusetts in the Civil War, he having recently come to this country from Polish Prussia and having gone into the army upon principle and because of his sympathy with the cause. We made many a heart-breaking march and were in many a battle together and his gallantry and efficiency gained him a commission in a regiment in which a sergeant had to be a fighting man to keep his chevrons and an unusual man to gain the shoulder-straps. He became a captain and in some of the fierce days at the end of the war had the regiment under his command. After the war he attained the same rank in the regular army. When somewhat later I joined Shattuck & Munroe in the practice of the law he was already the managing man of the firm. In those days things were simpler than now. We had no typewriters or stenographers, but the captain did everything that we did not do in person. There as in the army he was invaluable and he became one of the best-known figures in legal Boston. He remained with Shattuck & Munroe and then with Munroe after Mr. Shattuck's death and since that time has been with gentlemen who were with Munroe when he died. The Twentieth was a regiment that never talked much about itself but that stood in the first half dozen of all the regiments of the North for the number of killed and wounded in its ranks. Quiet and steady under fire, quiet and effective in camp, modest, distinguished in bearing and soul, Captain Magnitzky was a type of the great regiment in which he served. He merits a larger memorial than this little wreath which one who loved him lays upon his grave.

O. W. HOLMES

Boston, Sept. 20. 1910.

HAD A REMARKABLE WAR RECORD

Transcript — Sept. 20, 1910.

Captain Gustave Magnitzky of Jamaica Plain Came Unscathed Through Stirring Battles of the Early Sixties

Captain Gustave Magnitzky, who has died at his home 127 Chestnut avenue, Jamaica Plain, at the age of seventy years, was born in Breslau, Germany, March 28, 1840. He was a retired officer of the United States Army, a member of the Army of the Potomac, was chancellor of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, a member of the Edward W. Kinsley Post 113, G. A. R. and other societies.

Captain Magnitzky served the entire four years of the Civil War with the Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers and was the only surviving officer who went through the entire service with the regiment. He took part in all the engagements, with the exception of the one at Reams's Station, and though he was wounded several times, he seemed to bear a charmed life and always appeared on the field when the next fight was on.

In the memorable campaign of Grant down through Virginia, twenty-one officers of the Twentieth Regiment crossed the Rapidan on the 3d and 4th of May, 1864. On the 17th of June, six weeks later, three only of the twenty-one crossed the James River, and of these three, when finally across, Captain Magnitzky was the only one alive and he was wounded.

After the close of the, war Captain Magnitzky received a commission as first lieutenant in the regular army of the United States and was stationed in command of Fort Pike, near New Orleans, La. He was retired in 1871 and came back to Boston to live, where he became associated with the late George O. Shattuck and continued during the next thirty-five years with the firm of Shattuck, Holmes & Munroe, Shattuck & Munroe and with William A. Munroe, until his death in 1905.

One of the last things Captain Magnitzky undertook was to serve on the commission appointed by Governor Draper to select a site and monument for the Massachusetts regiments on the battlefield of Petersburg, Va. His distinctively military bearing and his prominence in many lines of activity made him a well-known figure in Boston and he had many friends in all ranks and in all parts of the city. He was prominent in German societies and held office in several of them. He was on the State Republican delegations for several years. His wife, formerly Clara Louise Guternuth, two sons, Gustave F. and Albert L., and a daughter, Louise, survive him.

Died Saturday, April 11, 1914, of pneumonia

HALLOWELL — At Noddebo, West Medford, April 11, Norwood Penrose Hallowell, 75 yrs. Funeral services at 50 Mystic st, West Medford, Tuesday, at 2:30 P M. Train leaves North Station at 2 o'clock. Friends are requested not to send flowers.

Boston Transcript - April 13, 1914.

When Quakers beat their plowshares into swords they make the most effective use of their swords. The late Colonel N. P. Hallowell was, like General Nathaniel Greene, a "fighting Quaker," having been born and reared a "Friend." His abolition convictions were so strong that they would not suffer him to give the cause of human freedom mere "pious aspirations." He went the whole length of his convictions and exchanged the drab for the blue. He did more, for he possessed the same social courage as Colonel Shaw and became an officer of a colored regiment at the time when to put negroes in uniform was considered "bad form" by many of the associates of Shaw and Hallowell. It seems strange to us now that such officers should have been deemed in military circles "eccentrics," but we live in 1914, and in the half-century that has elapsed since the Fifty-Fourth Massachusetts was raised the American world has learned and unlearned a good deal. Colonel Hallowell did not regard the employment of colored soldiers as simply a successful expedient. He deemed it justice to their race, and he has recited with pride, as proving the progress of negroes under freedom, that the colored regiments raised by free States were regarded as superior to those recruited in the States then in rebellion. A brave soldier, who fought not from love of fighting, but from love of a great cause, has gone to his rest.

Norwood Penrose Hallowell, '61

By Henry L. Higginson, '55.

IN our War of the Revolution a stalwart Quaker was a passenger on an American vessel which was attacked and boarded by an English man-of war crew. The Quaker said to one of the boarders: "Friend, I cannot strike thee, but I can drop thee into the water", and he did so.

A Philadelphia Quaker family of our day reached the same result by sending to the Civil War two sons, one of them, Norwood Penrose Hallowell. He was one of six children born to his father and mother, from whom he inherited fine traits of character. He was a fair student in the class of 1861 at Harvard, and was at times mischievous or careless about some of the College regulations. When the Civil War broke out he was near his graduation, but could not live without enlisting in the great struggle, for he had been brought up in a strong anti-slavery atmosphere. He was commissioned first lieutenant in the 20th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers, and immediately after going to the front took part in the Battle of Ball's Bluff. In the dreadful retreat from that battle he distinguished himself by bravery and resource. Having saved his own life by swimming to the island, he with others rigged a raft or boat and brought back many men who could not swim.

This photograph of Col. Hallowell was taken on Soldiers Field, June 23, 1911, as, carrying the '61 banner, he led the procession of graduates to the Yale baseball game. It was the fiftieth aniversary of his class.

He had gone out as a first lieutenant, was soon promoted to a captaincy, and saw very hard service on the Peninsula during the campaign of 1862, where his regiment did fine service and suffered terribly. At Antietam the 20th Regiment was in the great attack on the Confederate centre, and met a severe Confederate fire which drove back Sumner's corps on our right. Hallowell

was severely wounded, and suffered throughout life from his injury. Presently he was commissioned lieutenant colonel in the 54th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers (colored) of which Robert Shaw was colonel. Before leaving Massachusetts he was commissioned colonel of the 55th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers (colored) and went to the front with that regiment, doing excellent service. But his wound had exhausted his strength, and he was forced to resign in the autumn of 1863, having done his utmost to save his country from ruin.

Since the War he has been a hard-working wool-broker and dealer, a railroad director, and later for many years an admirable bank-president, who has thought, dreamt and lived for his bank and for his stockholders.

In all these years since 1863 he has striven, as a good, devoted husband, father and citizen, to build up his country, and has raised a quiverful of children. He has championed the full rights of fellow-citizens, white and black, has spoken his mind fully and freely whenever occasion required, and above all has lived simply and bravely as a high-spirited, high-minded gentleman.

To Harvard men he was especially warm and hearty in his greeting, and never failed to talk, to march, to romp with the students, with old men, young men, boys and girls.

In business circles he kept an open mind and a high sense of integrity, and he always had a mind of his own about every transaction.

One of his friends and comrades, who marched with him, said yesterday: "He was as gallant an officer and gentleman as I ever have seen;" and that word "gallant" especially fitted him. Always cheerful, often gay, full of courage, sympathizing—he, with his tall, fine figure and handsome, pleasant face, will long linger in the memory of our people.

In his delightful home, with his three sons and three daughters, and his grandchildren about him, and with a noble wife who warmed and brightened all their lives as she brooded over them, he has enriched our community, and has left a happy memory. What more can any of us wish for?

COL. HALLOWELL'S RECORD

Col. Norwood Penrose Hallowell, '61, died at his home in West Medford, Mass., on Saturday, April 11, after a brief attack of pneumonia.

Col. Hallowell was born in Philadelphia, April 13, 1839, the son of Morris Longstreet and Hannah (Penrose) Hallowell. His people were Quakers, and he studied for two years at Haverford College before going to Harvard; he entered at Cambridge in the fall of 1857 and graduated in the class of 1861. The Civil War broke out before the end of his College course, and he at once enlisted. From April 25 to June 10, 1861, he was in the Fourth Battalion, New England Guards (infantry), Maj. Thomas G. Stevenson, stationed at Fort Independence, Boston Harbor, but he took his final examinations with his class, and delivered the oration on Class Day.

On June 10, 1861, he was commissioned first lieutenant in the 20th Massachusetts Volunteers, and on September 24 went with his regiment to the front. He took part in the battle of Ball's Bluff, October 21, 1861. He was commissioned captain on November 26, 1861. He was engaged at the siege of Yorktown, was under fire at West Point, in action at Fair Oaks and at Savage's Station and was wounded at Glendale. He was in the battle of Malvern Hill, subsequently took part in a reconnaissance from Harrison's Landing to that place, was in the third line of battle at Chantilly, and at Antietam, September 17, 1862, received a severe wound which kept him on the hospital or invalid list during the following fall and winter.

On April 17, 1863, he was commis-

Lieut. Arthur G. Sedgwick died at Lenox, Mass., Wednesday, July 14, 1915.

Bro. Brig. Gen. Charles L. Peirson, first Adjutant 20th Mass Vol. Inf, died Jan 23, 1920

FEIRSON.—At his residence, 191 Commonwealth avenue, Boston, on Friday, Jan. 23, in the 87th year of his age, Charles Lawrence Peirson, brevet brigadier general U. S. Volunteers, late colonel of the Thirty-Ninth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. Funeral services at the First Church in Boston, Berkeley and Marlboro streets, on Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 12 o'clock.

SOUND TAPS FOR GEN. PEIRSON

Professor James H. Ropes of Harvard Conducts Services for His Distinguished Uncle at First Church in Back Bay

Military honors were paid General Charles Lawrence Peirson this noon at the First Church, Back Bay, where the services were conducted by Professor James H. Ropes of Harvard, who is a nephew of the deceased. The music was by the regular quartette of the church, with John K. Marshall at the organ. The hymns were "How Happy Is He Born and Taught" and "For All the Saints." Before the body was borne from the church, Arlie Latham of the First Corps of Cadets played the "Lost Chord" and sounded taps.

In the chancel were numerous symbols of the military associations of General Peirson. There were the flags of the Nation and State, the colors of the Loyal Legion and other military bodies, while stretched across the old choir enclosure, at the left, was the flag of the Society of the Cincinnati. Present at the funeral were members of the various military bodies and social clubs to which General Peirson belonged, including several of the old 39th Regiment and the Salem Light Infantry.

Those acting as ushers were Theodore Lyman, James S. Russell, Rodolphe Agassiz, M. H. Richardson, E. P. Richardson and G. E. Benson, all nephews of General Peirson; and R. H. Stevenson. The burial eventually will be in Forest Hills Cemetery.

He read his own Obituary Notice in 1864, when he was reported to have died of his wounds,- wounded in the groin

JUSTICE HOLMES KEEN AS EVER AT 83

Birthday Finds Son of Autocrat in Fine Health

1924

WASHINGTON, March 8 — Capt. Oliver Wendell Holmes, a justice of the United States supreme court, is 83 years old today. He is in excellent health, and his associates, who today vie with one another in felicitating him, say that mentally he is as keen as ever.

Justice Holmes, son of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, was born in Boston in 1841, and when 20 received his A. B. at Harvard. He was one of the first to volunteer in '61, being a lieutenant in the 20th Massachusetts regiment. Valor and merit advanced him during his long service—almost four years—to be lieutenant-colenel, and he was retired with the rank of captain. He was thrice wounded, twice severely—first at the battle of Ball's Bluff, on Oct. 21, 1861, when his breast was opened; the next fall he was shot in the neck at Antietam, and he again was wounded at Fredericksburg.

Despite these experiences, his extraordinary constitution pulled him through, and he resumed his studies. Following his LL. D., in 1866, came brilliant progress as a lawyer and law student. He has been honored by many universities, including Berlin and Oxford. He edited the 12th edition of "Kent's Commentaries," taught law at Harvard, and even now is engaged with his writings.

His career as a judge began in 1882, when he became an associate justice of the supreme court of Massachusetts, being made chief justice in 1899. Three years later he was named to the United States supreme bench.

He married Miss Fanny Dixwell in 1872.

GENERAL A. R. CURTIS

April 8, 1925.

Brigadier General Arthur R. Curtis, eighty-two years old, one of the few surviving generals of the Civil War, died at the National Soldiers' Home in Milwaukee today. A Harvard graduate, General Curtis enlisted at President Lincoln's first call for volunteers. His daring under fire soon won him a commission, and rapid promotion followed.

He won a meritorious service decoration while in command of a brigade in the battle of the Wilderness. The general went to Milwaukee thirteen years ago because of ill-health. For nine years he was the Home postmaster, but for three years had been in the hospital. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Anna Curtis, librarian at the Home.

General Curtis will be buried with full military honors Friday.

PERRY—In this city, Nov. 15, Martha Derby Perry, wife of Dr. John G. Perry, and daughter of the late John Rogers of Boston and Sarah Ellen Derby of Salem, in her 86th year. Funeral private.

1925

PERRY—In this city, Dec. 1, Dr. John Gardner Perry, in his 87th year. Funeral services private. New York City papers please copy.

1926

A FORMER NEW YORK SURGEON

Dr. John Gardner Perry Dies at His Boston Home, 371 Commonwealth Avenue

Dr. John Gardner Perry, for many years a distinguished surgeon in New York, died last night at his home, 371 Commonwealth avenue, this city, where he lived since his retirement, twenty years ago. He was in his eighty-seventh year. Dr. Perry served as a surgeon throughout the Civil War, and became widely known through the publication of his book, "Letters from a Soldier," a collection of what he wrote to his wife during the war. He was born in Boston and studied at Harvard, from which he was graduated in the class of '60, and from the Medical School in '63. His father was a Boston physician and Dr. Perry practised in New York before and after the Civil War. He leaves one sister, Miss Abbie Perry, who lives at the Charlesgate Hotel.

1926

Noted Military Engineer

Major General Oswald Herbert Ernst, U. S. A., retired, died at his home in Washington last night after a heart attack. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

Oswald Herbert Ernst was born in Cincinnati June 27, 1842, the son of Andrew Henry and Sarah Otis Ernst. He attended Harvard from 1858-60 and graduated from West Point in 1864. He married Elizabeth Amory, the daughter of W. R. Lee of Roxbury in 1866. He rose from first lieutenant in the engineers to captain, then major, lieutenant colonel, brigadier general and in 1916 was made a major general.

-Col. 20th Mass. Inf.

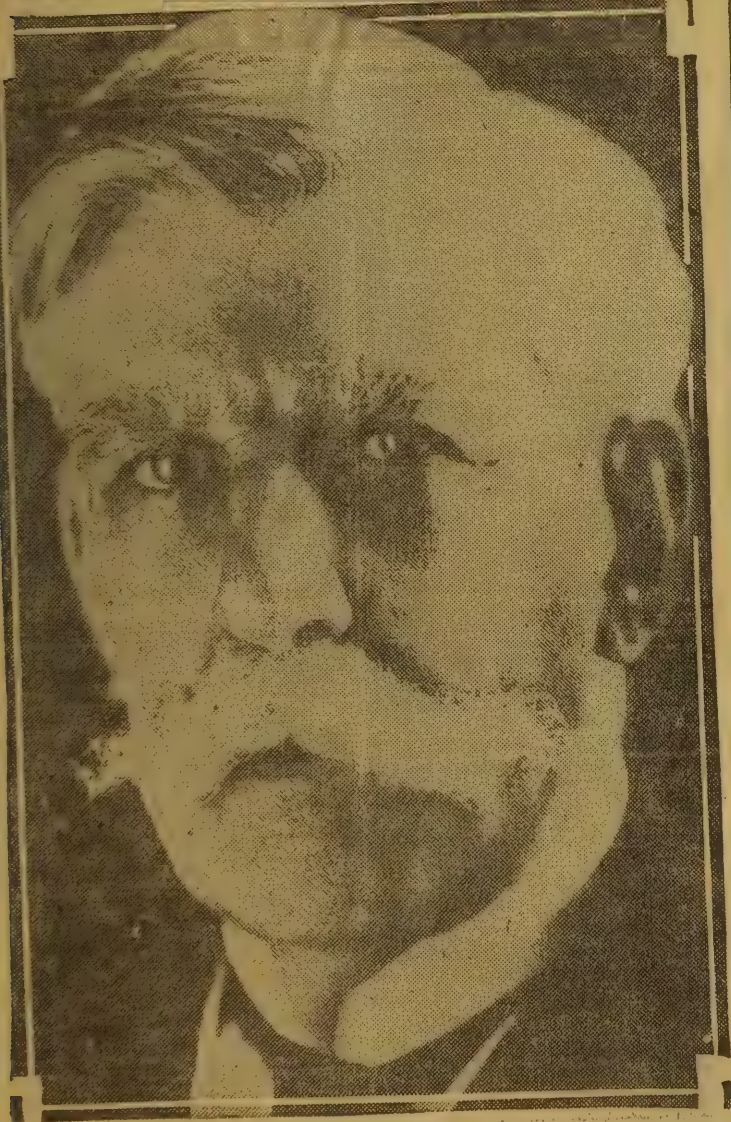
During his career he served as assistant engineer on fortification of the Pacific coast, astronomer with U. S. Commission to observe solar ecplise in Spain, instructor of engineering at West Point, head of Western River improvements and deepening of Galveston harbor, director of public buildings and grounds, Washington, superintendent West Point, member of Isthmian Canal Commission, president of Isthmian Canal Commission, and director of the Panama Railroad. He was a member of the Loyal Legion, Military Order of Foreign Wars, (he served in war with Spain, commanding the troops of Coamo), American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Metropolitan and Chevy Chase clubs. He was also the author of the Manual of Practical Military Engineering.

Transcript, Feb 22, 1926

Tuesday, Aug. 11, 1927.

THE BOSTON HERALD, THU

REFUSES TO ISSUE SACCO WRIT



(Associated Press Photo)

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of the United States supreme court before whom counsel for defense applied for a writ of habeas corpus.

Transcript. Aug. 21, 1927.

Judge Holmes' Decision In His Own Handwriting

Unusual Document Is Filed in the United States Court at Boston to Complete the Records

It is an incident in this case likely to be commented upon in court history that the decision of Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of the United States Supreme Court, denying the Sacco-Vanzetti petition for a writ of habeas corpus goes on the records of the Federal Court in Boston in Judge Holmes's own handwriting. Judge Holmes wrote the whole decision with pen and ink when called upon at his summer home on the North Shore by Arthur D. Hill of the counsel for the defendants. It is a firm and flowing handwriting of closely knitted small letters, with one word crossed out, and was penned with a coarse pen. The lines are almost perfectly straight and close together. In no respect does the document suggest its author's age of eighty-six years.

Harvard Alumni Bulletin, Dec 22, 1927.

Letters of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes

HARVARD men generally are familiar with the fact that Oliver Wendell Holmes, '61, LL.B. '66, LL.D. (hon.) '95, who has just completed his 25th year as a Justice of the United States Supreme Court, is a veteran of the Civil War, and older graduates will recall that he fought in many of its most important battles and was repeatedly wounded. "My Hunt after 'the Captain'," one of the best known papers written by Oliver Wendell Holmes, class of 1828, M.D. 1836, the father of Mr. Justice Holmes, is the account of the father's search for his son after the latter had been severely wounded at Antietam. It is hardly exaggeration to say that this narrative has become a classic in America.

During the progress of the war Dr. Holmes had many anxious hours about his son, who was such a favorite target for Confederate bullets, and it was not strange that the father, in his private correspondence, adverted more than once to the military experiences of the soldier, then in his early twenties, now the eminent jurist. Two letters in which Dr. Holmes told his friends about his son's injuries have come into the possession of J. E. Zanetti, '06, Professor of Chemistry at Columbia University, who has lent them to the BULLETIN. One is addressed to Frederick S. Cozzens, Esq., 73 Warren St., New York City; the addressee of the other is unknown, but he was apparently a New York dealer in photographs, etc.

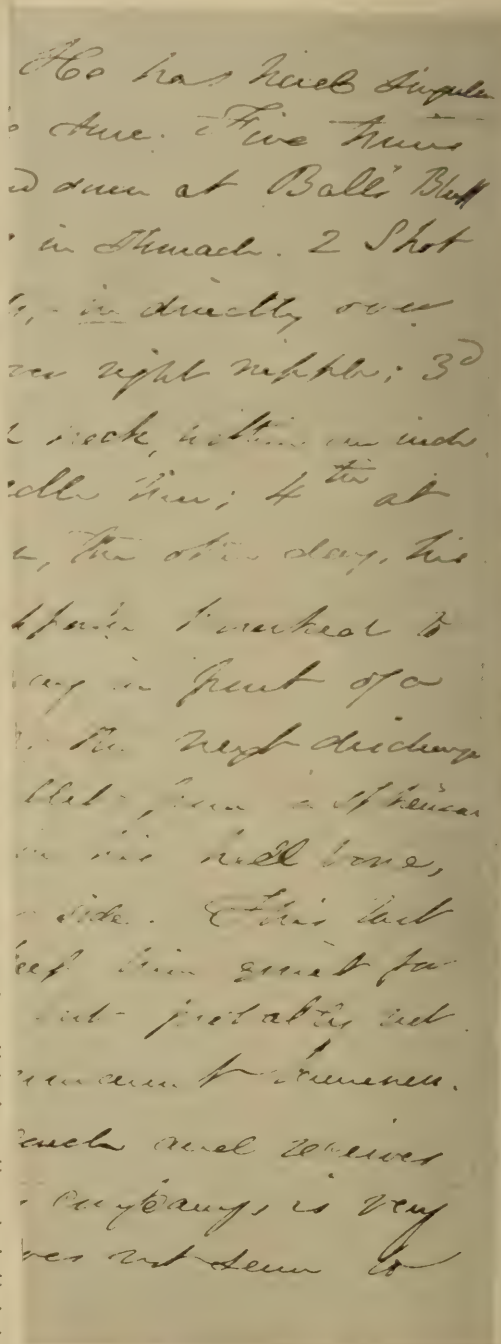
Dr. Holmes's letter to Mr. Cozzens, dated May 24th, 1863, was written subsequent to the publication of "My Hunt after 'the Captain'" in the *Atlantic Monthly* and soon after the soldier had been wounded at Fredericksburg. The letter to the unknown correspondent was written a little while after the battle of Antietam. The former letter has probably never been published; it does not appear in Morse's volumes of Dr. Holmes's correspondence, and Mr. Justice Holmes had never seen it until a former private secretary sent him a photostat copy. Professor Zanetti discovered the original, bound in a first edition of Dr. Holmes's "Soundings from the Atlantic," published in Boston in 1864 by Ticknor & Fields.

The letter to Mr. Cozzens, dated, May 24th, 1863, is here given:

"My dear Cozzens:

"Many thanks for your kind attention in forwarding the Surgeon General's Order. I read it with great pleasure which was not at all diminished by the circumstance you mentioned. Happening in at my venerable old friend and connection's, Dr. James Jackson's this evening and mentioning the Order to him, I found that he was of the same opinion as Dr. Hammond about the relative amount of good and mischief done by these powerful (illegible) in the hands of average surgeons such as make up the mass of the Army practitioners. I shall write a few lines to Dr. Hammond giving my opinion of the local and truly scientific movement he has begun to carry out on a large scale. It will have an immense effect on medical practice everywhere, coming as it does with certainty from a source which must command attention and respect.

"I thank you, too, for your pleasant words about my boy, 'The Captain' of my *Atlantic* narrative. He has had singular escapes to be sure. Five times hit. 1. Knocked down at Ball's Bluff by spent ball in the stomach. 2. Shot through heart, *in* directly over heart, *out* over right nipple. 3d. At Antietam through neck, within an inch or so of middle line; 4th at Fredericksburgh, the other day, his knapsack supporter knocked to pieces, as he lay in front of a battery. 5th at next discharge but one, a bullet from a spherical case buried in his heel bone, from the outer side. This last wound will keep him



Letter to Mr. Cozzens.

quiet for a while, but probably not leave any permanent lameness. He lies on a couch and receives lots of pretty company, is very jolly and does not seem to think much about his past exposures. Wounds of the bone are slow affairs and the war may have changed its aspect before he is on his foot again. He read your letter with great satisfaction. (Three lines crossed out, written over them.) This is a muddle—I mixed up a request in another letter with yours. I don't think he values himself so much for his military adventures, though he has really been brave and faithful, as (illegible) powers and tastes which he is having a chance to cultivate just now. Perhaps you would like a photograph of the 'Boy' (At 22 standing six feet and over in his military shoes) at any rate I will send you one.

"I am going to write our Haletown 4th of July Oration when you will see my politics and I hope weigh philosophically.

"Very sincerely yours
"OWH."

The other letter, dated, Oct. 1st, 1862, is worthy of attention not only because of its allusions to Mr. Justice Holmes, as he now is, but also because it discloses the fact that Dr. Holmes was greatly interested in the stereoscope. The present generation probably does not know what a stereoscope is, but for many years almost every family in the country had one of these devices and a collection of photographs to be used with it. The stereoscope was, in brief, a little contrivance consisting of an eye-shade and a holder for a photograph made up of duplicates, placed side by side, which the human eye combined into one image as they were seen through the lenses of the stereoscope. In the letter here referred to, Dr. Holmes lamented the fact that he had seen very few new photographs—when prepared for the stereoscope they are known a "stereographs"—and admitted that he was "famishing for a view of new ones."

That letter read as follows:

"My dear Sir,

"I was absent in search of my son, wounded in the recent great battle of Antietam when your very acceptable present of the two fine stereographs arrived. Last Saturday evening, Sunday and until 8 A. M. I was in New York with him, but alas! as when I was there with him after Ball's Bluff, I found your establishment closed and could not have the pleasure of visiting it in person. I hope very sincerely that I shall be able some time or other to call upon you and thank you for many favors, as well as indulge myself in the examination of your collection.

"Very few new pictures come to Boston in these times and I am famishing for a view of new ones. A few that I have received of instantaneous views in Paris are interesting, as are some of interiors of French churches. But I have seen no illustrations of *walking* equal to your Broadway and crowd dispersing after the regatta.

"Begging you will excuse my involuntary delay and assuring you again of my grateful sense of your kindness. I am

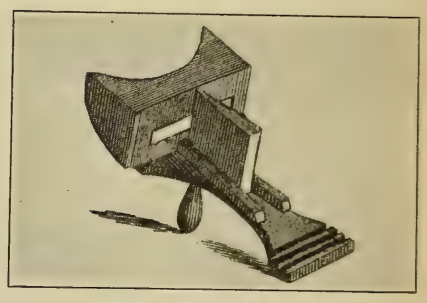
"Very truly yours,
"O. W. Holmes."

A search of Dr. Holmes's works has brought forth proof that the distinguished physician, teacher, and writer himself invented a form of the stereoscope. This information is contained in a little pamphlet, the "History of the American Stereoscope," a reprint of an article which Dr. Holmes wrote for the *Philadelphia Photographer* in January, 1869. Dr. Holmes did not claim that the basic idea of his stereoscope was original, but his apparatus had a new application of lenses which was subsequently patented. He found no little difficulty in placing his invention in the hands of a manufacturer, even as a gift. Dr Holmes's amusing story of his efforts to give away his invention follows:

"The simple stereoscope was not constructed by accident, but was the carrying out of a plan to reduce the instrument to

"'No prophet is accepted in his own country,' I said with pious resignation. 'Let us try our very good friends, the noted opticians of Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.' So on my next visit to that city, I showed my pattern there, and offered it freely and without price, but they looked at it as if they were bachelors too, and this was the twin of the other baby, on *their* doorstep.

"I had received many polite attentions from members of a great photographic house in Broadway, New York, and, as I was returning through that city, I thought it would only be fair to offer



Dr. Holmes's Stereoscope.

them a chance to repeople the world with my improved breed of stereoscopes. Nothing could be more polite than the way in which they treated me, but I might as well have offered my stereoscope to an undertaker for a smile of welcome, as to these great dealers, generous and excellent people as they are.

"Not far from their establishment, was another of some pretentions, at which I made one last trial. On entering the salesroom, I saw a young gentleman smoking a cigar with such evident enjoyment, that I felt quite ashamed of myself for interrupting him on a mere matter of business. I bought a picture or two of him, however, and then brought out my stereoscope and began, in a modest way, to explain its advantages and its commercial possibilities. It was to a young Briton, I found, that I was addressing myself,

Boston Transcript, Saturday, April 14, 1928

W. R. Castle, Jr., at Old North on April 18

Assistant Secretary of State Will Give Patriotic Address in Evening

WBET to Broadcast

Edward Revere Little, Descendant of Paul Revere, to Hang Lanterns

William R. Castle, Jr., chief of the division of western European Affairs, Department of State, Washington, will give the address at the patriotic service to be held at eight o'clock Wednesday evening at the Old North Church in Salem street. After the address and a brief religious service by the rector, Archdeacon Dennen, Edward Revere Little, great, great, great-grandson of Paul Revere, will take two lanterns from the chancel and, after carrying them to the tower, will hang them there, that their

Hon. W. R. Castle, Jr.

beams may shine out as did those in 1775, when Paul Revere made his memorable ride to warn the countryside of the approach of the British soldiers.

Edward Revere Little, who lives in Brookline, is sixteen years old and the eldest son of Dr. Clarence C. Little, president of the University of Michigan. Edward Little's grandparents were James L. Little and Mary Robbins Revere. His great-grandfather was Edward W. R. Revere, assistant surgeon of the Massachusetts Twentieth Regiment, who was killed at the Battle of Antietam.

This patriotic service at the Old North, on the eve of April 19, has been held for a number of years, and seats are re-

Edward Revere Little

served for the pew-owners until the beginning of the service.

Mr. Castle's talk will be broadcast by [illegible] WBET.

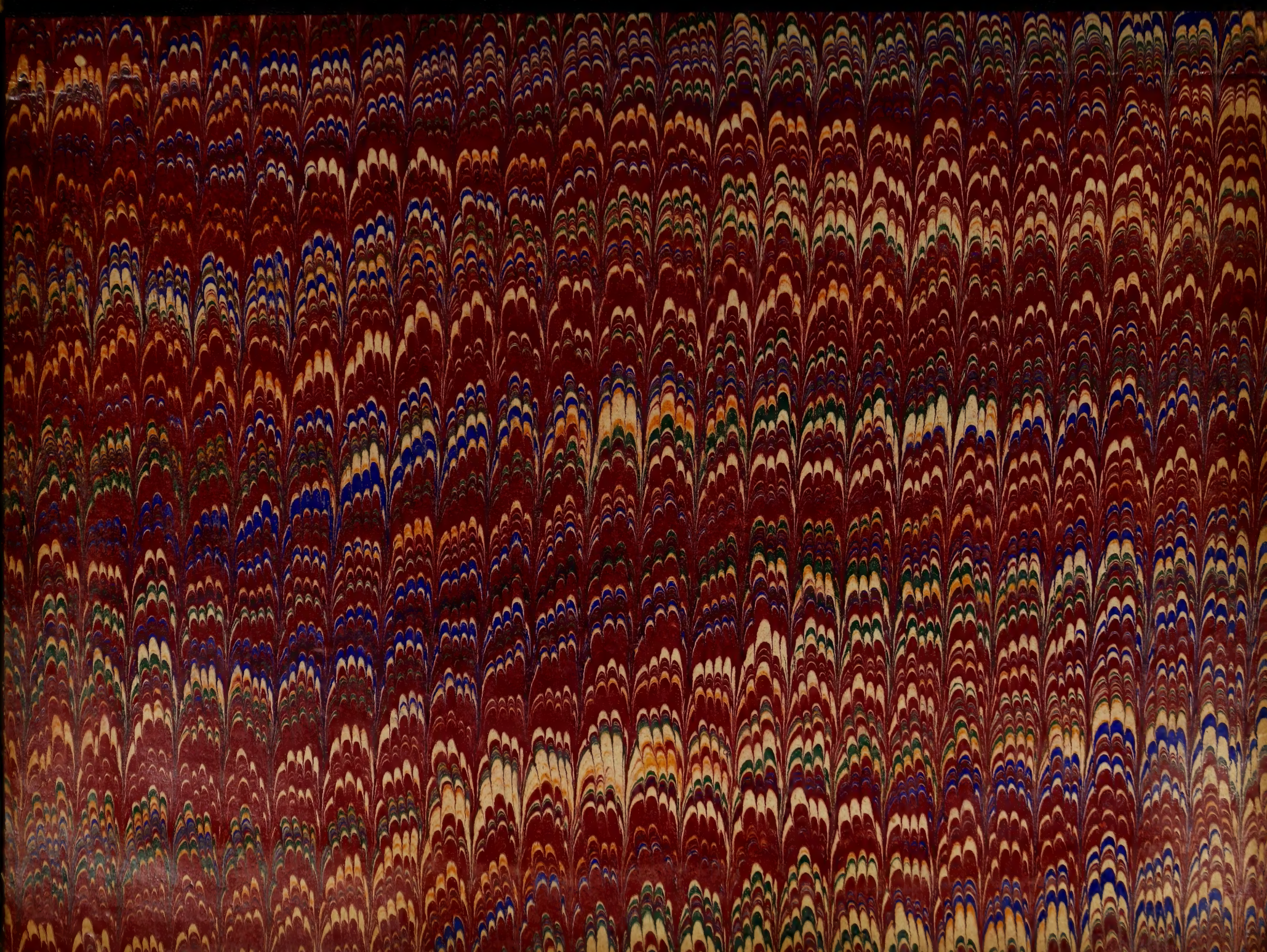
Boston Lays Down the U. S. Supreme Court Law for a Day

Boston Transcript, May 23, 1929.

Justice Holmes was Hon. A.B. 1861.

Justice Brandeis was Hon. L.L.D. 1877

(Acme)

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes (left), the Oldest Member of the United States Supreme Court, Is Here Seen Leaving the Court Building in Washington With Justice Louis D. Brandeis, Also Well Known in Massachusetts, and for Years Was in Eminent Practice in Boston.

Justice Holmes Was Born in This City on March 8, 1841, and Was Appointed to the United States Supreme Court by President Roosevelt. He Took His Seat December 8, 1902.